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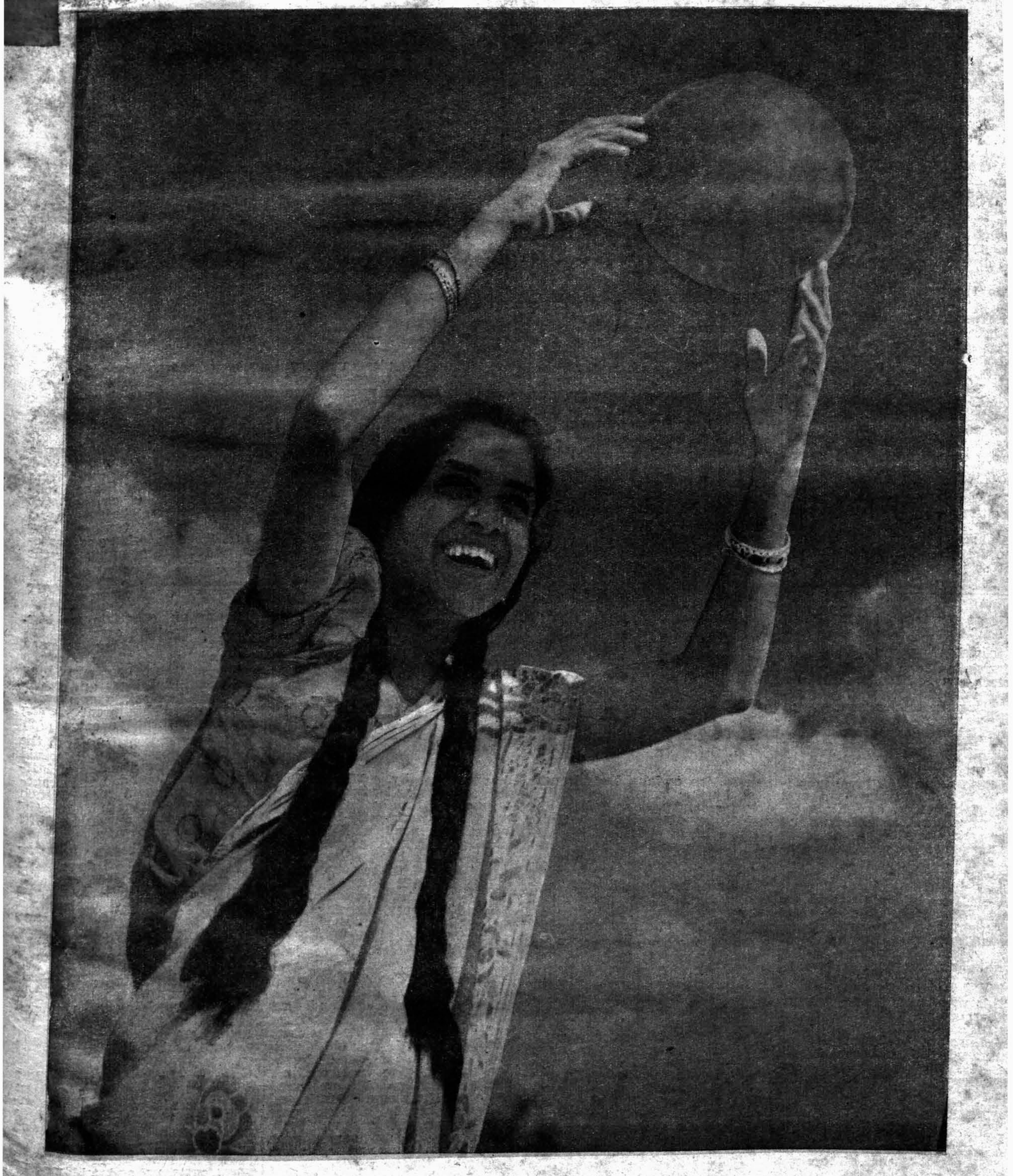
New Year Smile



—Moorthy Vasan

CHINESE APPEAL FOR INDIAN FREEDOM

Our Short Story

By Richard Hill Wilkinson

WAS IT MURDER?

'It's a nasty mess," Lint Jennings said worriedly. "When it gets out that murder was committed at my place, it'll ruin my business Jake, isn't there something you can do?"

Jake Caren was the chief of police of Hayden. He was not only the chief, he was the entire force. He had known Lint Jennings since boyhood. He knew about Lint's latest venture of operating a camp for summer visitors. He knew that Lint had invested his entire savings in the enterprise.

"Folks are morbid, Lint. Soon's they hear you had a murder up here they'll flock around like buzzards. Who was this guy anyhow?".

"Blakely? Oh, some big shot from Wall Street. He came up for the fishing. Brought his young wife with him. Her name's Helen and she's too pretty for her own good."

"A knockout, eh"?

"A dream. I don't blame young Colin Brand falling in love with her. Would myself if I was younger. But that don't excuse him none for shooting her husband."

"What makes you think he done it?"

"Well, for one thing, he says so."

The two men mounted the steps of the long, rambling log structure that contained the dining-room, community room and guides' quarters. On the north side a wide veranda overlooked Lake Benton. It was an ideal spot, perfectly designed for the purpose to which Lint Jennings had put it.

Inside, near the large stone fireplace, were a girl and a boy. They were sitting close together. They jumped up when the men entered.

Jake Caren was mildly surprised. Helen Blakely was scarcely more than a girl. Her large browr eyes were wide and frightened. She clung to young Colin Brand's arm. Jake had a moment's regret that so young and apparently innocent a couple should be mixed up in such a mess.

Young Brand's eyes were steady, his chin high when he answered the officer's questions. "Yes, I shot him. I'd do it again. He had been beating Helen. She came to me. There was a bruise on her arm. I went berserk, I guess. I got my gun and went across to his cabin. He was sitting on the little porch that faced the lake. I shot him."

Helen Blakely suddenly burst into tears and dropped onto the divan, covering her face. Brand sat down beside her, placed an arm about her shoulder. He looked up at Jake Caren. "She had to marry him. Her folks made her. She's just a kid. You mustn't blame her for any part of it."

"I don't reckon we'll have to" Jake said. It was going to be hard charging this boy with murder taking him away from the girl. "Mrs. Blakely, your husband must have had a reason for beating you."

"I—yes, I suppose he must. He knew I hated him. It made him furious. Then this morning a letter came. For a long while he said nothing. When I asked him if anything were wrong—he—he struck me."

She began to sob again. Jake Caren turned on his heel, nodded to Lint to follow and went out. "The boy won't try to get away" he said. "Where's Blakely?"

Jennings led the way along a path beneath the pine trees to a cabin down by the lake. They entered. Thomas Blakely had been carried inside and laid on a bed. Even in death the lines about his face were hard and cruel.

Caren stared at him for a long time, at the wound in the side of his neck. "Jake, go call Doc Whitney and tell him to get out here in a hurry. Be quick now".

When Jennings had gone, Caren began going through the pockets of Blakely's coat. He found nothing, but in a wastebasket near the desk he found some torn pieces of paper. He carefully removed them, stuffed them into his pocket. Then he went outside and looked around the small porch. On a table near a chair was an empty water glass.....

By the time Doc Whitney had driven out from town, Jake had pieced together the letter he had removed from the wastebasket. He read what was written thereon, then gathered the pieces up, placed them into an envelope and put them back into his pocket. Then he went in where Whitney was examining the body.

The girl and the boy were still sitting by the fireplace in the community room when Caren entered. They were silent, staring into the flames. Their hands were closely entwined despair and agony was written in their faces.

Jake sat down beside them. "It's like this, folks. I can't arrest young Brand for murder, because he didn't commit murder. I'll have to take him in though for his intentions. Maybe he'll get off scott free. Maybe they'll give him a year."

They just stared at him, as though afraid to speak.

"Blakely was dead when Brand shot him. He'd received a letter from the banking firm for which he worked. They told him an investigation had revealed that he had been stealing funds for a number of years. They were going to indict him. Either he couldn't stand the disgrace or he was sick of living because he knew his wife hated him. At any rate, he took poison. I have the letter he received and the glass containing a few drops of the poison.

"You see, no blood came from the wound made by Brand's bullet. This meant, of course, that the man was dead before he was shot. Doc Whitney confirmed my theory. So stop looking so desperate and begin planning for the future".

Helen was frightened. She clung to young Colin Brand's arm.

Yes, I shot him. I'd do It Again. He had been beating Helen. She came to me.....

PARIS—
Target For To-night

Target for to-night was Paris. A leaflet raid. Take-off was scheduled for 21.40 hours.

Permission from the flare-path control was flashed towards us Three minutes later we had roared along the tarmac runway, and now we were embraced within the enfolding dusk of evening. A large, pale moon was glowing over to the left, well up into the sky. The aerodrome below showed itself to us, with large splashes of half-light lying about over the flying-field, losing themselves in confused patterns of dark and clear amidst the hangars and rows of huts. There was a melancholy and lonely air about the whole station, and I felt, as we gained altitude steadily, that for a time we belonged there no more. We faced southwards into the night sky. The land below was reflected coldly in the moonlight. It seemed to me as a lost world, lost in space and without life.

This was our first trip to Paris. Rather odd, I thought, returning to Paris like this. This time I was travelling to German Paris. I remembered two other Parises that I had once known; it seemed a long while ago—an English Paris of spring, 1939, and a French Paris of autumn of the same year.

I went to Paris for the first time in May, 1939, by Newhaven and Dieppe that time. I saw myself as I was then, rather young and enthusiastic, sitting opposite an Army officer in the train. He was travelling overland to Marseilles to meet his boat for Aden. He read his Penguin stolidly, and never gazed at the countryside slipping away outside. I remember how entranced I was with it all. This was new, this was France. And then the Gare St. Lazare. I was shielded from an over-sudden onslaught of strangeness by the sound of English voices around me as I left the train to find the consigne. There were a lot of shops on the station, too, selling English newspapers and Virginian cigarettes. I found this at once reassuring and annoying. I realised I was not altogether lost and yet I longed to lose myself in the atmosphere of this new city....

It was another city that I discovered when I felt the Gare d'Orleans in September. I had returned from a tramp along the Loire somewhat hurriedly and a trifle scared on the outbreak of war. There was little left to remind one of that once gay and busy playground. I was a stranger once again in a very strange land. No longer the bright boulevards, illuminated fountains, garish cafes, nor all that vibrancy that was Paris. This was a dark, solemn land. Solemn. That was the spirit of the place. Not the solemnity, quiet and peaceful, of a great cathedral. This tenseness was artificial. Along every street swept the anxious breath of war. The lamps on the bridges had been darkened and the street lights were ghostly and dim from under inverted hoods. Taxis and autobuses were infrequent. The atmosphere was closed-in and altogether unbearable. I went to a bistro I knew in Suresnes. The proprietor's son spoke to me of the new gloom that had descended upon the city. When I told him that I was leaving next day I remember how he had told me that soon I would come back. "We are together, you and I, together in this affair, n'est-ce pas?" I promised that I would be back. I was relieved to be gone. I was glad to leave it to the French. The life had been quenched, the charm had departed. My Paris was stilled. . .

The French coast came into view, a warm darkness quite distinct from the Channel. We could even see the white broken line where the sea met the land. And here I was returning, to shower leaflets down upon the Parisians I had known of an old time The flak from the coastal batteries came up to welcome us; thank you, Hun. We are bound for your Paris now. Black and drear. Curious to think we were over France, this dark, unfriendly territory whose very name spoke of light and sun and a warm feeling in the heart.

We droned onwards through the sky under the lost light of the moon. The other chaps were very quiet, too. The front gunner was straining his eyes into the darkness, his fingers clutched about the firing-handles of the Brownings. The observer seemed lost in thought as he gazed out of the starboard window. He had drawn aside the black-out curtains. It was a very clear night and an easy trip for him.

At last we were over the approaches. Everything seemed dark and dead. There was a gloom everywhere over everything that smoothed bridges and buildings and streets into oneness. A few strange lights went fleeing down the darkened avenues.

The observer went behind to the flare-chute, down which he would soon thrust those bundles of leaflets bringing hope and encouragement, we hoped to the French below. I went south and the whole city spread about the Eiffel Tower came into view.

The observer began dropping the packets. I looked down and saw winking lights now as if the sky were beneath us. Somewhere to the right in the darkness a blind was being pulled up and down. Short. Short. Short. Long. The V sign! Pocket torches in the darkness below spelt upwards the victory symbol, too. A glad feeling came back to me. Paris was for the time no longer Hun—it was French again. I tapped out answering Vs on the recognition lamp "Keep good heart. We shall be back", I wanted to say.

This was a lonely return to a place I had loved, but I felt one with those who waited and watched below, who showed with a pocket torch the comfort and cheer which our presence in the night sky gave them. The observer came up and told me the bundles were gone; he too tapped out Vs. We circled the city once again, trying to identify once-familiar landmarks.

The atmosphere of unfriendliness and barrenness crept back, and we made our passage towards the north. With a last wistful glance at Paris we went on through the night, into the night, on and away.—"The Manchester Guardian".

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra on 21 April, 2017

NEW YEAR HONOURS' LIST

(With apologies to the Standing Committee of All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference).

Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds.

An Unintelligent Forecast

By D. F. KARAKA

SUPREME ORDER OF THE RED RAG TO THE STUD BULL: His Excellency the Right Honourable Marquis of Linlithgow.
P.C.....etc.....etc..... for grossly overstaying his "welcome" and for trying the patience of a people for over seven abnormal years.

SUPREME ORDER OF QUIT INDIA (OFFICE): The Rt. Hon. Leopold Stennet Amery,
for being Christian enough to have given India its baptism (of fire?).

TO BE KNIGHT COMMANDER OF HINDUSTAN HAMARA: Mr. Mohamed Ali Jinnah, Bar-at-Law, President of the All-India Muslim League,
for his services in the cause of uniting the Muslims and dividing the Indians.

TO BE MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF THE VICTORIA CROSS: The Honourable Reginald Maxwell,
for performing deeds of sustained valour in the face of barrages of truth and non-violence.

TO BE KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE ORDER OF THE PINK GARTER: The Honourable Sir H. P. Mody
for his most successful wartime chairmanship of the Cricket Club of India.

THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE: To be divided equally between Mr. B. F. BHARUCHA and the HON'BLE MR. PARKER
for their untiring contributions to the local press.

TO BE KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE ORDER OF THE DELHI EMPIRE: The Hon'ble Dr. Ambedkar
for never being depressed, even when in the Viceroy's Most Depressed Executive Council.

TO BE COMPANION OF THE UNSETTING SUN OF THE EMPIRE: The Hon'ble Mr. Aney
for "Aney-thing" he may have done for the cause of the Empire.

TO BE COMPANION OF THE ORDER OF THE EYE-WASH: The Hon'ble Sir Feroze Khan Noon
for being a Defence Member with a Canteen portfolio.

TO BE COMMANDER OF THE ORDER OF THE THICKENED WHITE SKIN (Military) Brigadier Jehu
for the inimitable way in which he has handled public relations.

TO BE KNIGHT GRAND COMMANDER OF THE HAMMER AND THE SICKLE: Sir Homi Mehta
for sending £22-10 to Comrade Maisky in time to save our ally, Russia.

TO BE MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF THE HINDU BATH: Mr. Mafatlal Gagalbhai, philanthropist (Hindu).

TO BE MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF THE MOSLEM SHOWER: Mr. A. A. Jasdanwala, philanthropist, (Moslem).

TO BE MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF GETTING STEVE: Mr. A. F. S. Talyarkhan, sportsman (non-communal).

TO BE MEMBER OF THE CRICKET CLUB: Lady Farooq Shah, dancer.

TO BE MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF THE ONLOOKER: Nawab Janab Shah of Billikadum (nine guns)
for playing golf on the centre page.

TO BE MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF THE UNLOADED GUN: Mr. M. R. A. Baig
on relinquishing his Sheriffdom.

TO BE MEMBERS OF THE R.W.I.T.C. (Honorary):

B. G. Horniman, editor.

B. G. Horniman, Twilight Twitterer.

B. G. Horniman, racing enthusiast.

TO BE STEWARD OF THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS: Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill
for his unselfish attitude towards India.

TO BE STEWARD OF THE TURF CLUB (Bombay):
(This award will be made in consultation with Mr. A. C. Ardesir and Mr. P. D. Bolton).

"Order of the Red Rag to the Stud Bull".

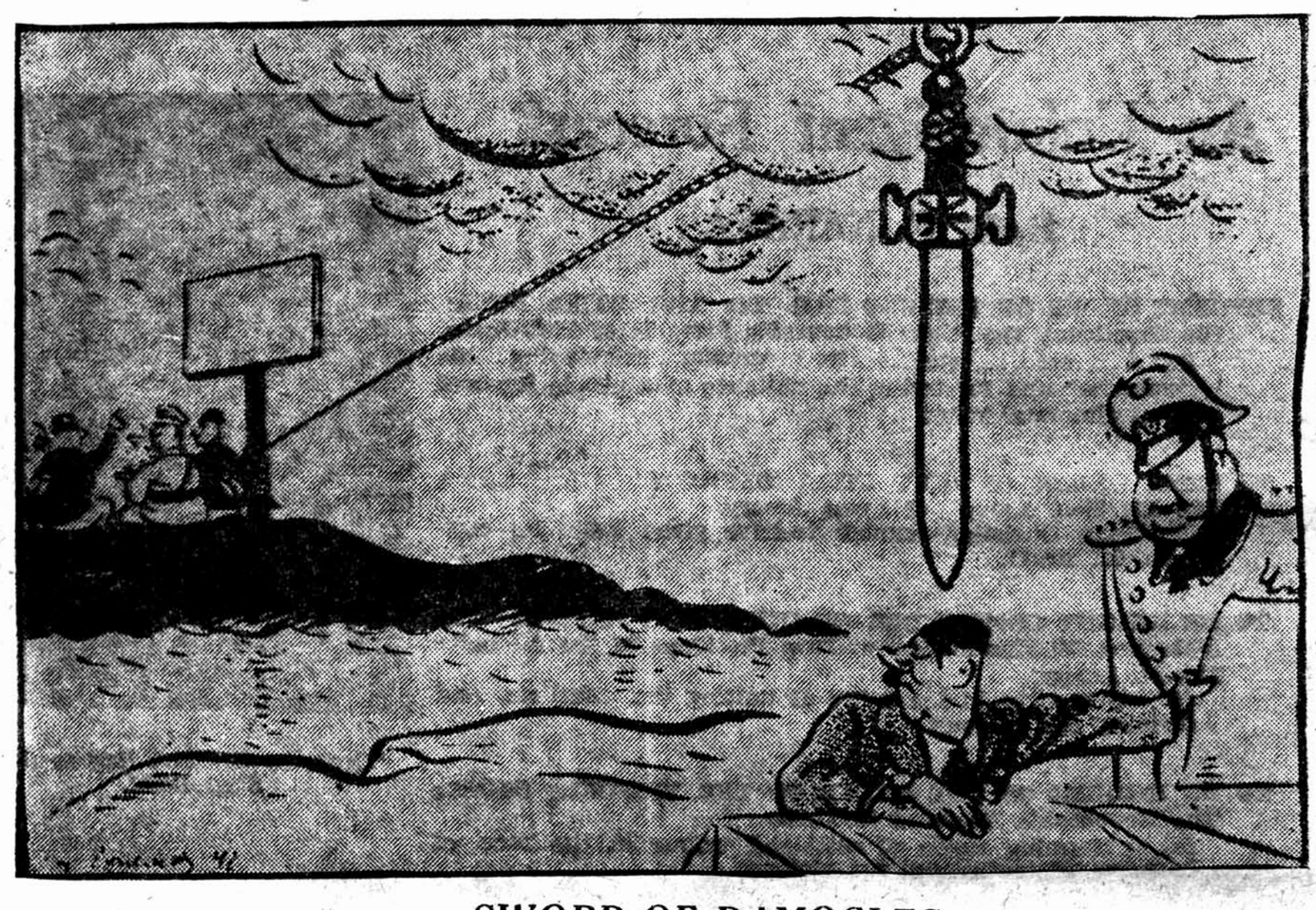
Knight Commander of Hindustan Hamara.

Knight Commander of the Order of the Pink Garter

Supreme Order of Quit India

Triple Laurels.

When One Cartoonist Writes To Another...



This is the cartoon which has led to the exchange of the accompanying interesting correspondence.

Boris Efimov is one of the best caricaturists in Russia, possibly the best. When Mr. Low was in Russia ten years ago Efimov and Deni were in the top places. Efimov's cartoons appeared in "Pravda" and "The Crocodile" and other journals, and were syndicated throughout Russia and also appeared in posters. In the war his position has probably further increased in importance. His caricatures are mainly on international subjects, not on the monumental lines but fiercely intimate in their revelation. Many of his cartoons have appeared in "The Spirit of the Soviet Union," the book published by the Society for Cultural Relations with Russia.

SWORD OF DAMOCLES

M. Efimov's Letter ..... And ..... Mr. Low's Reply

Dear Mr. Low,—Before me are fresh copies of newspapers with your remarkable drawings, which evoked in me the desire to address a few words to you.

I wish to tell you, Mr. Low, with what interest I and other Soviet artists have been and are now following your magnificent work, which has won for you the well-deserved fame of the best cartoonist in the world.

We appreciate your extraordinary skill for its typical features of creative English genius—its steadiness, logic and clever humour, and its subtle sarcasm.

Your visit to Moscow in 1932 afforded me the pleasant opportunity of making your acquaintance. From that day the album "The Best of Low," with your autograph, which you kindly presented to me, occupies an honourable place among the books of my library.

Since then events of greater and smaller significance have come to pass, some evoking laughter, others the feeling of sorrow and grief. Many achievements have been won and not a few mistakes made

But never before have we been confronted with problems like those facing us to-day—problems that will decide our destiny as well as that of future generations. Never before has the menace been so great. The future of history hangs in the balance. On one hand light, progress, democracy, life; on the other darkness, corruption, barbarism, death, that is, Hitlerism. I am happy, dear Mr. Low, that in this decisive hour I am with you—a great artist whose creative work I regard with admiration and from whose works I learn—in one camp, the camp of free people pitted against the corrupt hordes of the Attila of today.

My country has mobilised all its resources. Everyone is at his post striking the enemy with the weapon he can best handle. Soviet cartoonists have taken their stand in the general line.

It is difficult for our peoples alone to wage a deadly struggle against the hordes of the enemy—ruthless and armed to the teeth. But our will to fight and win has not been shaken. We have faith in the might and readiness to act of the anti-Hitlerite coalition.

We gladly accept your vows of friendship, sympathy, and the assistance of your people, but our happiness will increase tenfold when we hear that the good old Anglo-Saxon battleaxe has struck at our common deadly enemy, who only then will feel what a coalition of peoples defending their life, liberty, and honour means.

I feel sure that the splendid art of David Low will play its part in the achievement of that happy hours.—Yours sincerely,

B. EFIMOV.

P.S.—I take the liberty of sending you with this letter one of my drawings.

Dear Boris Efimov.

I find it difficult to say how highly I appreciate your letter and how grateful I am for the favourable opinions of you and your friends. I have pleasant recollections of the cordial hospitality shown to me when I visited your country ten years ago and of the interesting talk we had together about cartooning and the responsibilities of cartoonists. Believe me, my friend and fellow-craftsman, I have often thought of you in these stormy days.

A philosopher has said that even calamities have a compensation in that they give men the opportunity to realise their highest selves; and I note in your war cartoons, which I see frequently, your own worthy response to the inspiration of the present struggle. Your unfailing wit and lucidity of treatment have a heightened usefulness as an authentic expression of the unconquerable spirit of your people. The drawing you send me will be a treasured possession. I am proud to find myself associated with you and your fellow-Soviet artists using their talents for such a cause against such enemies—as proud, indeed, as the British people are of the achievements of their allies,—your brave soldiers.

There have been, as you say, differences and mistakes in the past, though the Soviet Union has never lacked steadfast friends here who wished only to see her succeed in realising peace, prosperity, and happiness for her people. There may be still misunderstandings to be straightened out in our joint affairs. But all these mean nothing before the present elemental conflict between civilisation and barbarism. We are attacked by the bloody bandits of Berlin, who have no discernible principles but to loot and to destroy. The question to be decided is whether human beings may aspire to dignity and freedom or whether they must sink to the condition of animals, looking forward hopelessly to death or that degradation which is worse than death

Before such an alternative the only reality is our complete unity with you in the struggle, our admiration of the magnificent spirit of your troops, our glory in the epic defence of Leningrad, Moscow, and now Stalingrad, and our eagerness to relieve you of part of what is certainly at present your undue share of the burden. These sentiments, I do assure you, my dear Efimov, are not confined to a section, but permeate the whole of our British people.

It has taken a Herculean effort to develop our power. The British Commonwealth is strong, but in 1939 its war strength was only potential. We entered the war unprepared, spiritually and materially, and we have to organise from the foundations, under fire. We have had to fight delaying actions, to make withdrawals, and suffer humiliations while preparing for the day when in your company and that of the United States we could come forth in complete confidence to defeat Hitlerism and end the war. The enemy has known this well enough and has adjusted his calculations accordingly. Hence his concentrated efforts against you. But jointly with our mighty ally the United States our calculations are capable of readjustment also.

There are many of your friends here who wish, with all their hearts that the time for major action had already begun. The spectacle of the enemy ravaging your cities has mixed agony with our enforced patience. Decisions of time and place have had to be influenced mainly by the calculations of professional experts, and their plans are not to be published for Hitler to read.

But be assured that the day is very near when your British and American comrades in arms will seek to match the deeds of their Soviet allies in conditions most carefully chosen to secure the downfall of the enemy.

That day I hope to celebrate in a cartoon; and, with your approval, I will give myself the pleasure of sending you the original in return for your gift to me."

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Chinese Scholar Appeals For India's Freedom

By Setting India Free Britain Will Break Axis Pretext For Aggression

By Prof. Tan Yun-Shan
Director, Visva-Bharati Cheena-Bhavan.

BEFORE making my appeal, I must make myself clear to those to whom I shall appeal.

All my friends know that I am a pure and simple Chinese Buddhist scholar. Though occupying the position of a University Professor, I regard myself as a pilgrim to India.

My humble ideal and mission is to bring these two great nations, India and China, together through cultural intercourse and co-operation, not only for the good of our two countries but for the good of the whole world. I have nothing to do with any kind of politics. I also do not know much about politics. But the present political situation in India prompted and compelled me to make this appeal although this seems to involve political problems However, my motive is pure and unadulterated, conscientious and humanitarian, not at all political

The present political deadlock and chaotic situation in India ca not in any case be any more prolonged and should not be allowed to last longer It will do good to nobody but help the common enemy. It will serve neither the purpose of Great Britain nor the purpose of India but will be a tempting invitation to the aggressive and avaricious Japanese militarists.

The Clam And The Kingfisher

It is just like the kingfisher and the clam in a Chinese story: When a clam exposed itself to the sun, a kingfisher stuck its beak into it. The clam immediately closed its shell and caught the beak of the kingfisher. The kingfisher said to the clam: "Today it will not rain, to-morrow it will not rain, then you must die." The clam retorted: "Today you will not get out, to-morrow you will not get out, then die will the kingfisher." Then came a fisherman who caught both the kingfisher and the clam. Therefore both of them became the victims of the fisherman.

Now the Japanese fisherman is watching at the gate of India with vigilant eyes and a malicious mind. He will surely avail himself of every opportunity to catch both the clam and the kingfisher. If it happens it will be most unfortunate and tragic, not for India alone but for United Nations and human decency. A Chinese proverb says: "Don't let your kinsmen feel pain and your foes feel happiness." The present situation in India causes great anxiety to India's friends, but make Berlin, Rome and Tokyo, Hitler, Mussolini and Tojo laugh so loudly in their broadcast Therefore I make this appeal.

First I must appeal to my Indian brethren:

All of you know that I am a great lover of India. I love and regard your country just as much as my own. I use to claim the privilege for myself of being half Indian and half Chinese. Your aspirations for the freedom and independence of India have all my sympathy and enthusiasm. In fact, your aspirations are also mine. But your present actions and movements, especially the ways and methods of your actions and movements such as looting shops, derailing trains, burning post-war, raiding Government offices, and killing Government officials, are not at all desirable and advisable.

War Against Fascism

So far as I understand, such actions and movements are not included in the programme of the All-India National Congress and such methods and ways of movements and actions are hated by Mahatma Gandhiji. Mahatmaji has declared several times that India should not embarrass the British and the United Nations in their prosecution of the war against the Axis. He also said very often that India should sacrifice herself for a greater cause.

Now the present war is not merely a war between the United Nations and the Axis. In other words, it is a war between the Democratic powers and the Aggressive forces. It is a war between freedom and slavery, between justice and injustice, between good and evil, between morality and demoralization, and between humanitarianism and brutality. Therefore, India not only should not impede and harass the British and the United Nations in their effort of prosecuting the war, but also should join them to fight the Axis, especially the Japanese. For the Japanese have already knocked at the door of India and will be your most dangerous, ruthless and cold-blooded enemies when they get into your country.

Of course, I quite understand your bitterness caused by the recent happenings in India You say that you cannot fight with the British who have denied freedom itself to India; that until India has been independent you cannot join the war with anybody or declare war against anybody; that this war is also merely a war among the hypocritical imperialists for their power and the mastery of their colonies; and that if you join the war unconditionally at this stage, it will only help the British Imperialists to perpetuate their grasp on India. If this is really the case and if the present war is really so simple, you are right to say so. But the problems in the present war are not so simple and the future of India will not be simple either.

Join United Nations

When the war is over and the United Nations win it, India will surely be independent and free. There will be no power on earth which could refuse the right to India to regain her independence and freedom, provided only India joins the war. The British cannot and will not, anyway, deny or delay India's freedom and independence any more. But if, unfortunately the United Nations lose the war, there will be no such thing as independence or freedom not only for India but for the whole world There will be only the terrible tyranny of Germany, Italy and Japan most probably of Germany alone. All the other nations and peoples will be trampled under Hitler's iron heel; even Duce Mussolini and General Tojo will be only Herr Hitler's obedient jacks.

So I most earnestly appeal to you, my dear and respected Indian brethren, for the sake of India's own defence, for the sake of the United Nations' common cause, and for the sake of peace, justice and humanity: You must cease the present mass movement against the British Government, and turn the present movement into a fighting campaign against the Japanese invasion. If you do not like, for certain reasons to join hands with the British, you can join the war shoulder to shoulder with the United Nations. There are United States troops in India. You may also join the war in various ways.

If you do not all of you like to fight with the United Nations in arms, you can fight even non-violently by organising the people and giving them necessary information and instructions about the war, by telling the people about the danger of the Japanese invasion and training them how to resist it and by doing nothing which may be considered harmful to the United Nations and helping to the enemy. You must realise the ruthlessness and mercilessness, the atrocities and brutalities, and the immorality and inhumanity of the Japanese militarists You must not listen to the Japanese propaganda which is merely deceit and lie. You must not think of having a change of master as Mahatmaji once said.

Appeal To Britain

If unfortunately the Japanese come to be India's master, it will be worse for you, worse than the domination of any other imperialist power. You can easily see this from what the Japanese have done and are doing in Korea, Formosa and in occupied China. Moreover, you must not be disappointed and dismayed by the present situation. The future of India is very great, hopeful, bright and glorious You have only to fight for it by now by joining the United Nations in this war My dear and respected Indian brethren, cease your present mass movement against the British Government, join the United Nations, and fight the aggressive Axis, especially the Japanese invaders!

Now let me appeal to our great ally, the British Authorities:

For everybody's sake and for many reasons you must first declare India independent and free immediately, then form an Indian National Government as soon as possible

This is the aspiration not only of the Indian people but also of the peoples of the United Nations. Even your own British people, most of them I dare say, have the same desire too. Perhaps only our common enemies would not like you to do so; because if you declare India independent and free, their propaganda will be useless and they will lose their hope of getting the Indians on to their side. Otherwise, Hitler may cry loudly again and again: "If Mr. Churchill can set India free I will kneel down before him;" the Japs may daily broadcast to the Indian people: "The British would not give you freedom and we shall come to relieve you."

I, therefore, most humbly and earnestly pray to you, you far-sighed British statesmen, to declare India free and independent immediately. Let Hitler kneel down before Mr. Churchill, let the Japs shut their evil mouths and may their day-dreams evaporate.

Rectify The Name

I say you must first declare India independent and free immediately because this is the first and most important and urgent thing you must do. This is what we call "Chen-Min," in Chinese, meaning " to rectify names." Once the greatest Chinese saint Confucius was asked by his discipie Tsu-Lu what he would do first if he had to administer the government. Confucius answered: "First, I would rectify names." He again said: "If names be not rectrified words will not be in accordance with the truth of things. If words be not in accordance with truth of things, affairs cannot be carried on to success."

When you declare India independent and free, the name of India and the present war will be immediately rectified, and the present deplorable situation of India as well as of the war will be entirely changed for the better.

Then you can very easily form an Indian National Government at your earliest convenience. To declare India independent and free needs not much time. It takes only a few minutes to complete the task. But it takes a little more time to form an Indian National Government. Still I hope you will accomplish this work as soon as possible. For the Indian National Government will help and join us to carry on the war against the Axis The sooner this Indian National Government be formed the better will it be for us all. By declaring India independent and free you will lose nothing: by forming an Indian National Government, you will get everything not only for yourselves but also for the United Nations.

You may say that you have promised India freedom and independence already, but this is not the time to declare it: and that you are ready to grant India self-Government, but until the Indians themselves settle their internal quarrels you cannot form it. If we only think of one side and look at it from one standpoint, it is quite right to say so. But if we also think of the other side and look from another standpoint, we shall have quite a different view. I am fond of quoting proverbs. Another Chinese proverb says: "The onlooker is always more clear than the man who is inside the affair."

Golden Opportunity

As an onlooker and outsider as well as a well-wisher, I think this is the best and most favourable time to declare India independence and free. This is a golden opportunity to declare India independent and free.

For the desire and demand for India's freedom and independence has never been so eager, so great and so urgent. You should not miss this golden opportunity. If you declare India independent and free just now, you will not only gain the hearts of the 400 million Indian people, but also obtain the praise, enthusiasm, appreciation and admiration of all the United Nations. You will not only win the war but will write the most glorious page in the history of mankind When you declare India independent and free, the Indians will naturally settle their internal quarrels and come together to form a National Government.

Although there are discords and controversies among the different sections and parties in India, the desire and demand for India's freedom and independence are the same everywhere. Even if the Indians cannot settle their internal quarrels and form a National Government after your Declaration, the blame and fault will be theirs, not yours. Then you have done your duty and justice is on your side, your Government will remain there, and it will only increase your dignity and strengthen your hold on India.

There is no need of fearing that when India becomes independent and free and has her own national government, she may make peace with the Japanese or she may not join the war or she may oppose the United Nations to carry on the war in India. It will be exactly the opposite. When India becomes independent and free, she will totally and wholeheartedly join the war with us. The Indians will neither make peace with the Japs nor oppose the war to be carried on in India. For the All-India National Congress and other parties have declared more than once that if they have their independence and freedom they will join the United

(Continued on page 18)

A TALE OF TOIL AND TEARS

Travel Third Class And Become A Philosophical Patriot!

BY K. U. KINI AND G. N. ACHARYA

NO longer can third class travellers, with their oft-told tales of woe, be put down as pestilential bores. They have acquired a new status—the status of Philosophical patriots.

The claim of third class travelling to be a new and altogether brilliant short cut to the blessed title of a patriot and to qualify for the appellation of a philosopher, was recognised by no less a person than Sir Edward Benthall, Transport Member, Government of India, inaugurating a new series of broadcasts on war-time transport early this month.

While recording that the people who had suffered most due to the recent disturbances, were, "the unfortunate third class passengers", Sir Edward was not so squeamishly sentimental as to promise anything so foolishly destructive of all education for philosophy as a prospect of lessening their suffering. On the contrary he proudly affirmed that those who suffered had the comfort of knowing that traffic vital to the defence of India was moving in priority and the war effort was being built up at the expense of the individual's comfort or profit. Therefore, the sufferers should be considered patriots who had taken all the suffering philosophically and could declare with an easy conscience: "Who cares so long as General Wavell gets what he wants?"

Third class travelling in India has had a long tale of toil and tears and of sweat as well as sweated money. Every one of us has experience of the hot, stuffy, close carriages; the hard narrow seats; the overcrowding; the dirt and filth of carriages and closets which defy description; the muddy tannin water, miscalled tea, served at the stations; the dirty refreshments served to dirtier passengers by the dirtiest imaginable hands, after being duly sampled by millions of flies; the noise, dust, heat, bugs, lice and beggars. And every one of us who has had any experience of the kind at all, would readily agree with John Gunther's description of Indian railways as torrential monuments to British engineering ability to make people suffer the greatest hardships and discomforts.

It was hardly necessary to tell anyone who had travelled once that he should travel only when he must.

Publicity Miscarried

Perhaps the railway administration was fully aware of this feeling when they took up a double-edged campaign to induce people to travel more. Firstly, there was a tremendous propaganda campaign carried out through the display of tempting pictures of historical places and inviting advertisements of health resorts. "Come To Kashmir" shrieked huge posters at you at every station. "A Holiday At Abu" was the motif of pictures hung from every hoarding. Every railway compartment became a school for the inculcation of the "Bhakti Cult" by exalting the sacredness of Pandharpur and Nasik, Benares and Hardwar, Tirupati and Srirangam.

And finding that not enough, perhaps, to swell the surplus in the railway budget, a system of concession by issue of "zone", "season", "round tour" and other tickets began to be issued. 'Travel, Because It Is Dirt Cheap!' became the slogan of the new era. Publicity agents made it their mission to prove that despite demurrage and damage, bribes and delays, railway transport was the cheapest and safest and road competition must be put down with an iron hand.

But then the war came and brought with it new pleasures and pains both to the travelling public and to the railway administration.

A Doctrine Of Delay

First and foremost, the old conception of the train service as something prompt and correct to the time had to yield place to a new doctrine of delay. As in the old days the trains did not run like greased lightning and arrive ahead of schedule. Whether it was because, as some people suggested, all the good engines had been set apart for war work or it was because all decent and patriotic drivers and mechanics had left their peace time occupations and were now busy doing their bit to finish off Hitler, as some others said, the fact is that every train creaked and squeaked, rumbled and fumbled, panted and gasped its way along the weary rails and when it reached a station, it came to a dead halt as if its long pilgrimage had been done. it had earned its pension and could now look forward to a quiet life of retirement.

And to add spice to a piquant situation the traveller could not even find out at which of many stations he was, because in some parts of India, under the new war time dispensation the usual modes of recognising a station no longer exist and a man has to rely solely on his instinct or inner voice, to find out which station is which.

"Travel Only When You Must"

And then in the name of war more and more services were curtailed. In a desperate attempt to bring down the volume of traffic the railway administration appointed talented men to do propaganda and these men invented a slogan—"Travel only when you must." It seemed strange to ordinary citizens that railways should invite you to come to Kashmir or go to Abu and at the same time ask you to travel only when you must! They did not understand the possible explanation that there might be two sets of men employed to do these two different jobs. Each man did his bit and earned his bit and if what one said went contrary to what another guy was saying to earn his bit, it was none of one's business.

Then the railways went and did something even more inconsistent. They found that this persuasion and propaganda were not enough. So they withdrew all the concessions. The whole business seemed not only wholly illogical but pointless. If the withdrawal of the concessions was considered more effective than the poster "Travel only when you must" then, obviously the poster was not only superfluous, but a sheer waste of printing ink, paper and energy. If you rely on your persuasive appeal, why should you hit at the passengers' purse? And if you have decided on hitting, why should you appeal?

Anyway this double process of attack on purse and appeal to conscience might have disheartened sight-seers, archeologists, and aimless tourists. But the vast majority of business people, sales agents, commercial and Government employees transferred from one place to another and taking along with them their wives, children and servants and big hordes of Sadhus and beggars continue to travel and think that they must.

He Must Travel

Take the case of the beggar boy whom one of us encountered in a fast moving Express the other day. He calmly pushed himself in through a window, reckless of the danger to his life; raised a din with a pair of wooden slats, putting to shame the rumble of the giant wheels of steel; enlisted the sympathy of the passengers by his sheer spirit of adventure and collected a handful of coppers.

And then sitting cross-legged in a lordly manner on the floor of the compartment, he begged for a beedi and smoked it with the air of a Moghul Emperor. Meanwhile he counted his collection; triumphantly announced that he was going to a cinema and calmly pushed himself out through another window while the train was still speeding on.

Obviously the boy not only thought that he must travel but risk his life in travelling because he must beg and he must beg because he must see a picture!

And just like that beggar boy each one of us had his own conception of when he must and defied the delays and discomforts of war time travel and incidentally acquired a splendid education in philosophy. Both of us have borne a cross each without being recognised so far, because there has been no premium on suffering. One of us went into a couple of excursions to the South and the other conceived that he must travel a good bit in the North and we have been wondering why a world which seems to have peculiar respect and fascination for all kinds of suffering, self-imposed, has not yet exalted us to the pedestal of martyrs.

Sacrifice "In Excelsis"

We had read of one advocate of the doctrine of mortifying the flesh, a St. Simon Stilites who sat on top of a pillar for endless hours. In our own country we had heard the story of 'Bhagiratha' who had stood on his toe and prayed so long that the gods sent down the holy river to wash away the sins of his forefathers. But we venture to think that either of these famous mortifiers of the flesh would have quailed at the thought of putting his back and head on a prickly basket rest his seat on a hard bench, stretch one of his legs heavenward at a sharp angle of 60 degees to his body because a huge steel trunk occupied the space in front and put the other leg off the trunk in a double twist from his body. And yet it was just in that pose that one of us had to travel for a whole night from Poona to Guntakal.

One of us—the one that went North—has had the new war time experience of travelling over a long and pitiless Sahara, covering a distance of over a thousand miles, without food and without water. The trains were invariably crowded; not even standing room could be had and not a wink of sleep in the course of two nights running. What little food was offered at the railway stations was stale and stinking and uneatable and around the water-tap, there was always a long and unceasing stream of people. "Might is right" being the motto here, our traveller could not elbow his way to the water-tap; but he took refuge in the philosophic thought that he was selfless and that he could suffer and that the railway authorities were, at least, kind enough to allow him to stew in his own juice.

A Little Selfishness Again

But once in the course of his travelling he became faint-hearted. On his return journey from Delhi, he could not resist the overpowering feeling of sleepiness. He succumbed to the temptation of a little space below the feet of passengers seated on two rows facing each other. The compartment was a small one, announcing that it could hold 18, but actually containing 38. He unrolled his bedding on the wooden floor, while the passengers rustled and raised their feet. It looked as though the train could not bear his selfishness, but for which four more people could have been accommodated in that little space. It hooted and hissed and panted, creaked, squealed and jogged with a remorseless, and what seemed to him a mocking noise.

After some time he found himself lolling with a dim and hazy belief that somebody was shifting his residence and going away in a lorry loaded with utensils of all types, pots and pans, wicker-baskets and beddings. He tried desperately to figure out how he happened to be in that lorry and that, too, at the bottom of those odds and ends. Then he would feel the metallic rhythm of wheels mingling wit the most shapeless and senseless dreams; and when troubled by these he half awoke there was the strange mixture of jumble and jingle. So he decided to put an end to this agony and sat-up and found it more comfortable than lying down!

Evolution Of A Philosophy

Enough of such stories now. But of this we can assure you—both of us have now become something of philosophers, though our conduct on railway journeys could not, perhaps, justify, our being called patriots, in the sense that we did not try to wangle out some comforts. Still it can hardly be doubted that we have evolved a philosophy of our own by looking at and experiencing this suffering. We are glad to know that the great mass of humanity is adaptable to such circumstances, resistent to hardships and suffering, resilient and forgetful after an experience and through long and continued experience of railway travelling it can be trained to calm endurance and still more patient suffering.

Therefore, you can very well understand how we rejoice that at least now, after three years of war and two expansions of the Viceroy's Executive Council, a gentleman has been discovered who has the courage to give the go by to all the old, musty, unconvincing, uninspiring and ineffective slogans like 'Travel only when you must' and has come out with a slogan which is catchy, inspiring and well befitting the new war time spirit.

"We in the war transport and railway departments do not claim to be omniscient", Sir Edward modestly said in the course of his broadcast. He has, therefore,

(Continued On Page 20)

To The Trimurti

Great Trimurti! embedded in the rocks,
Symbolic of creation, three in one,
Whose ageless form in sheltered silence mocks
The waves, the winds, the rains, the scorching sun,
What hand designed thee, and whose vision grand
Conceived thee in thy godlike formless form,
Unequalled elsewhere in this ancient land
Of sculptured gods enthroned by worship warm?
As men upon thy threefold aspect gaze,
Creator first, Preserver next, and last
Destroyer, each of them a changing phase
Of evolution's circle wheeling fast,
In peace eternal thou dost kindly smile
Upon their troubles from thy wave-lashed isle.

S. R. D.

Research Must Be Free And Voluntary

By Prof. A. M. LOW

Scientific experiment must continue in spite of war-time conditions, for on the result of such work depends, to a very large extent, the progress of civilisation. The totalitarian regimes insist that only experiment giving immediate practical results shall continue. But Britain issues no such decree, for she realises that unforeseen richness may be yielded from the unhampered explorations of her scientists. Many results can be turned to use in her immediate war needs, but many will benefit the future generations of the peace.

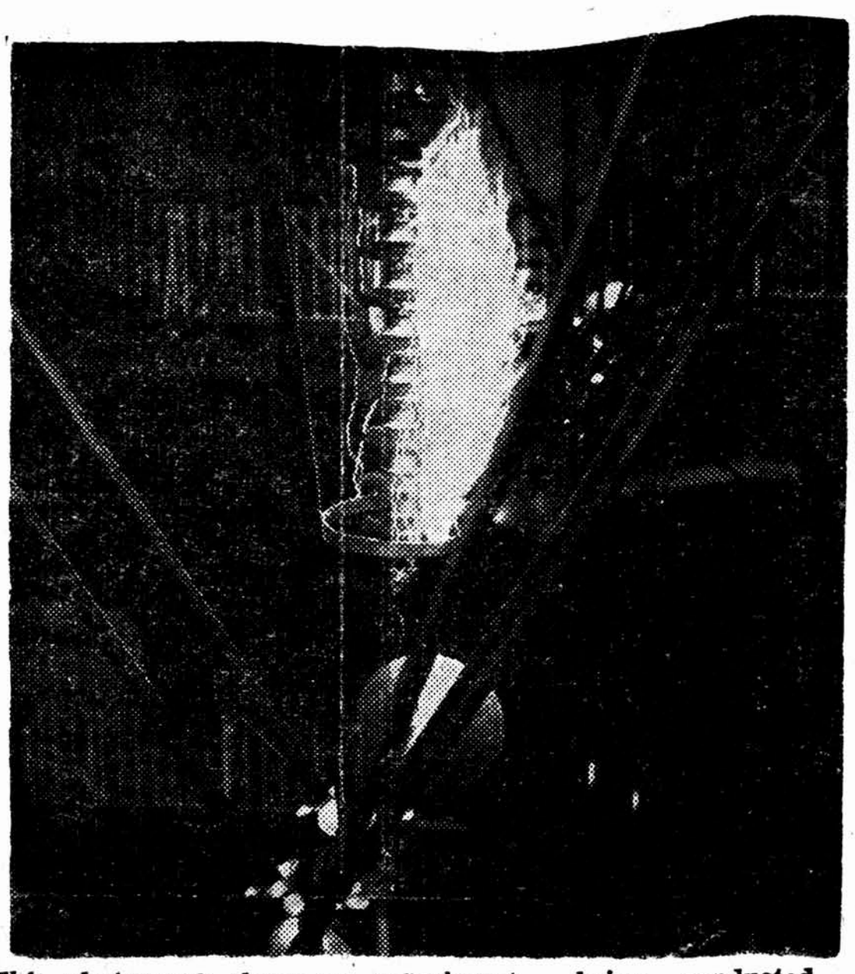
While every phase of British life and work has been diverted to the immediate aim of winning the war, not all our great scientists are wholly preoccupied with research which will immediately, or even ultimately, provide new weapons of offence and defence.

Hundreds may be experimenting to produce more powerful explosives, more deadly weapons of all kinds, new foods, new methods of preserving foods. But many are continuing to work in their laboratories upon what may be called purely academic problems—lines of research which give no promise of producing industrial profit, or even of being of any immediate use to mankind. Abstruse problems in mathematics, the behaviour of minute organisms under certain conditions, the properties of electrons—these seem, and are, very remote from tanks, warships, compressed foods, or more destructive explosives.

Haven Of Scientists

These men, whose labour appears to be of not the slightest assistance to the war effort, are being encouraged by the Government to continue with the work they were doing before war broke out, and even to begin new lines of academic investigation. And they know that upon the result of the war will depend the possibility of continuing their research. For one of the first impositions of totalitarian government under a personal dictator is the cessation of all research which does not promise immediate gain to the State, of the diversion of energy to so-called "practical problems." The Dictator State has no room for men who are pursuing knowledge for its own sake. Scientific theory, no less than every other phase of life and art, must serve the State. The discovery that conflicts with the axioms of the dominant creed is not permitted.

Britain has for centuries been a haven for those who sought truth in the laboratory. Her learned bodies have not always treated the discoverers of new facts which conflicted with old ideas too kindly, but there has never been persecution. No scientist has been charged with unearthing unpalatable facts—truths which would be treason in a totalitarian State. It is of very great importance that, in the middle of the greatest war the world has ever known, men are still busy in Britain studying scientific problems which can only be understood by a hundred others, and which seem to give no promise whatsoever of "practical" result.



This photograph shows an experiment being conducted with a high power electric current in one of Britain's laboratories.

Basis Of Civilisation

The recognition in civilised countries that scientific truth is worth pursuing for its own end is, in fact, the very basis of civilisation.

All great discoveries are based on the work of men who pursued knowledge for its own sake. The abstruse mathematical calculations which make possible the construction of a modern wireless receiver would be impossible if Thales had not studied measurement for its own interest—instead of, like his fore-runners, as a practical problem of landmarking—and thus founded a new branch of mathematics.

The wireless set may contain some hundreds of patented devices, but all would have been impossible if Faraday and others had not studied electricity without thought of commercial gain. Faraday sought the truth alone. He did not invent electric lighting, electric motors, or large dynamos—but without him we might have lacked them all. Faraday, giving a demonstration of an electrical phenomenon, was once asked by an old lady: "But what "use" it?" to which he replied "Madame, can you tell me the use of a new-born baby?"

"New-Born Babies"

There are "new-born babies" produced unheralded in a score of British laboratories to-day which will be much too young to take a part in the war. Some of them will benefit the world many years hence when they develop into lusty manhood. Sir William Ramsay was pursuing an academic problem when he discovered the "rare gases" of the atmosphere and thus laid the foundations for more brilliant electric lamps. Madame and M. Curie had no thoughts of practical use or reward when they discovered radium. But for them, a man seeking a cure for cancer might have spent thousannds of pounds on "practical" research and never found the help that radium could give

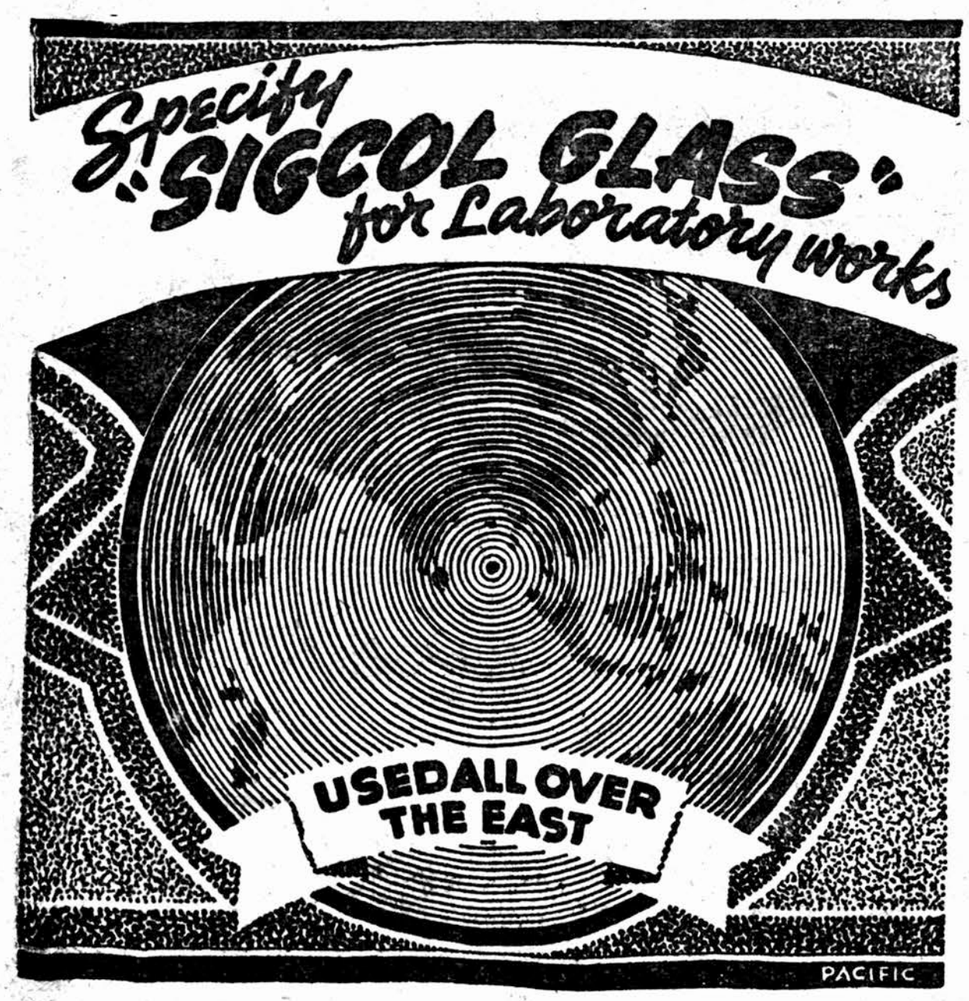
There must be, of course, practical research for the solution of immediate commercial, medical, military, and other problems. But in addition there must be steady work quite removed from the practical affairs of the world. The nation that does not recognise this fact, metaphorically speaking, "blows out its brains." This is what the totalitarian countries have done by insisting on "results" from every technical man.

A Hopeful Fact

As Professor Joad so aptly puts it: "That freedom of research is rarely granted to the scientists in totalitarian States is one of the few hopeful facts about our generally depressing times, for scientists who are compelled to do only what is useful to dictators will end by losing the capacity to do even what dictators think useful."

"Freedom of research" should not mean, of course, that the State will take no interest in Scientific investigation. On the contrary, it is the business of the State to support genuine research. Invention is as necessary to a healthy democracy as free education In a democracy the State does not divert science only into such channels as it thinks will produce immediate results for its present aims. It endows practical research on the problems of every industry—but it sometimes endows, and never interferes with research which has no end but the discovery of the truth. That there are men in Britain who have not been forced to turn from their work to the immediate problems of armour plate and high explosive is good proof that Britain recognises their absolute necessity to the civilisation for which it is fighting.

SCIENCE AND THE STATE



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42. SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted 250 candidates desirous of services as Station Masters, Signallers and clerks etc. Free lodging. Scholarship Rs. 80|- and Railway fare terms. Apply with 0-1-6 to Principal, Modern Railway Commercial and Telegraph College, Ambala City. (332)

Wanted a qualified, competent and experienced Motor Mechanic for a State in Kathiawar able to make some accessories. Pay according to qualifications. Apply urgently to Box No. 2857, "The Bombay Chronicle", Bombay.

141. EDUCATIONAL ADLETS

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327. AGENTS WANTED

Wanted agents to sell textiles of Bihar Cottage Industries in Bombay on commission basis. Cash security of Rupees ten thousand essential. Apply by the 15th January 1943 to:—The Director of Industries, Bihar, Patna. (2742)

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By Order,
C. D. LONAPPAN,
Manager
(2804)

Public Notices

VISVA-BHARATI
RABINDRANATH FELLOWSHIPS.

APPLICATIONS are invited and will be received by the undersigned up to Monday, the 20th January, 1943 for the following Research Fellowships in the name and memory of Rabindranath Tagore.

SUBJECTS:—(a) Development of Philosophical Thought in India
(b) Theory and Development of Indian Art and Aesthetics.

APPOINTMENT:—The Fellowships shall be awarded in the first instance for one year and will then be annually renewable for four more years.

GRADE:—Rs. 150-150-25-200 per mensem.

The Fellows must possess high academic qualification and previous research experience. They will be expected to carry on independent research in their respective subjects, deliver written lectures on the same as well as participate in some teaching work.

Prescribed forms of application and detail rules and conditions of service will be sent against -|4|- stamps.

KARMA-SACHIVA,
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RED ARMY TAKES THE OFFENSIVE

In Burma

Japs Intensify Preparations

CHUNGKING, Dec. 25.

A Chinese military spokesman said to-day that Japan is intensifying military preparations in Burma and airfields are being constructed by them at Hoping between Mandalay and Mytkyina.—Reuter.

AIR ATTACKS IN TOUNGOO AREA

Jap Planes, Railways And Steamers Damaged

NEW DELHI, Dec. 26.

India Command Joint War Communique:—

Patrolling activities in the Arakan District continued without further incident. To the north-east, in the Chin Hills area, a local engagement took place on December 24, in which the enemy, attempted to retake positions from which our levies patrolling in the area had previously dislodged them. The first attempt failed when it was enfiladed by our fire and later flanking attempt was no more successful. The enemy suffered casualties in both these encounters. Our losses are nil.

Yesterday, December 25 R.A.F. Fightrs made several low level attacks on enemy objectives in the Toungoo area. The targets they damaged included Japanese aircraft on the ground at Toungoo aerodrome—where casualties were also inflicted on enemy personnel—railway trucks in a siding at Kyauk Padaung and an oil tank at Chauk. Other fighters shot up gunposts and buildings at Akyab, Machingunned locomotives and a train near Monywa and damaged a large river steamer and some other craft on the Chindwin river.

From these and other operations none of our aircraft is missing.—A. P.

NO PANIC IN CALCUTTA

Civil Defence Member Contradicts Wild Rumours

CAWNPORE, Dec. 26.

Sir J. P. Srivastava, Member for Civil Defence, Government of India, has issued the following to the Press:—

"I find that there are wild rumours current in regard to the extent of damage caused by recent bombings in Calcutta and also their effect on the morale of the people.

Mr. Ibbotson, Director General for Civil Defence, has been in Calcutta since day before yesterday and is watching the situation there on behalf of my department.

In a telephonic conversation with me yesterday and this afternoon he assured me that damage to life and property is infinitesimally small, and the Japanese have failed woefully to cause any panic.

There is no truth whatsoever in the reports that Calcutta is emptying out both by road and rail. Yesterday afternoon the people were going about their business as usual and the streets were full of crowds with no thought other than making the most of Christmas festivities. The fact that Japan has not been able to do more than its performance of the last three or four nights has produced a fresh confidence in the defences of Calcutta and this is bound to have a very salutary influence on commerce and trading, once the temporary excitement is over."—A. P.

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New York. Dec. 26	
Previous closing	18.99
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Difference	+01

SOVIET FORCES ADVANCING ON ALL FRONTS

Company Of Axis Infantry Destroyed

MOSCOW, Dec. 26.

The Soviet midday 'communique' to-day states:

"During the night of December 25, our troops in the area of Stalingrad and the Central Front in area of the middle-Don and south-east of Nalchik continued their offensive engagements in the same directions as before."

The supplement to the 'communique says: "In the factory area of Stalingrad our troops fought surrounded positions and destroyed 19 blockhouses and pill-boxes. Some booty was captured. Our troops attacked and occupied a large factory held by the enemy where they wiped out about 500 enemy troops.

North-west of Stalingrad our troops have consolidated positions and exchanged fire with the enemy. On a number of sectors our snipers and machine-gunners wiped out about a company of Axis infantry. South-west of Stalingrad Soviet troops developed their offensive and forged ahead. One Guards Unit wiped out the garrison of an inhabited point consisting of a battalion of infantry with tanks and occupied this point. In the area of the middle-Don Soviet troops continued their successful offensive.

On the Central Front in the area of Velikie Luki one of our units repelled a counter-attack. Two hundred enemy were wiped out. West of Rzhev our artillery destroyed 16 enemy blockhouses and partly annihilated a company of infantry. South-east of Nalchik the offensive was continued and a number of localities were occupied by the Soviets including one village where the enemy's resistance was broken and over 300 were killed."

Fresh Areas On Stalingrad Mid-Don, Nalchik And Rzhev Fronts Captured

MOSCOW, Dec. 25.

Last night's Soviet communique says, "During December 25 our troops in the area of Middle Don continued to develop their offensive successfully and occupied several dozens of inhabited localities including the district centre and large railway station of Malchevskaya.

A few days ago south-west of Stalingrad our troops passed to the offensive and overcoming enemy resistance re-occupied more than a dozen inhabited localities.

On the Central Front our troops continued their offensive engagements. Our warships in the Barents Sea sank an enemy transport of 7,000 tons."

Small Russian assault detachments destroyed German fortifications in the Stalingrad factory area, reports the supplement to the midnight communique.

"West of Rzhev the enemy concentrated infantry and tanks and counter-attacked positions of one of our formations. The stubborn and furious battle lasted for two days.

At first the Germans succeeded in pressing our troops back somewhat and occupied an inhabited locality. But the next day our troops forced the Germans back to their starting point.

South-east of Nalchik our forces continued their offensive and dislodged the Germans from several inhabited localities.

A special announcement says. "The Soviet offensive in the Middle Don continues. Several dozen inhabited localities were captured including several large ones. Seven thousand and five hundred prisoners were taken to-day, bringing the total number of German prisoners to 49,700.

RED ARMY PASSES INTO OFFENSIVE

The Red army has passed to the offensive in the Kotelnikovo area south-west of Stalingrad and has driven the Germans back between 12 and 15 miles.

This was disclosed in a special announcement from Moscow late last night.

Three localities have been retaken.

In the Middle Don the Russian offensive continues. During Christmas day the Russians retook several dozen localities. Further 7,600 prisoners were taken on this front bringing the total to 49,900 since the offensive began.

During Thursday 7,000 Germans were killed.

In the area south-east of Nalchik Russians advanced from 12 to 20 miles between December 22 and 25. Large localities have been recaptured.

A new Soviet offensive south-west of Stalingrad defeated a major German attempt to relieve the armies encircled by Russians in their first offensive at Stalingrad.

After the Russians had driven a solid belt right round von Hoth's investing forces the Germans massed seven divisions north of Kotelnikovo of which three were tank divisions and on December 12 opened an offensive against the Russian ring.

During the first few days Germans succeeded in making some advances and capturing a number of places but without ever breaking through the encirclement.

The Soviet command adopted a policy of wearing out and exhausting the German attack before passing to counter-offensive which is now in full swing.

Between the opening of the German attack on December 12 and yesterday the Germans have lost 9 000 killed.

RUSSIAN TROOPS RESOLVE NOT TO LET ENEMY ESCAPE

LONDON, Dec. 20.

A Russian who has just returned from the battle zone north-west of Stalingrad tells me (cables the "Sunday Times" Moscow correspondent) that, when a violent gust of wind sweeps the snow over the steppes it often uncovers hundreds of bodies, mostly Germans. Throughout the reconquered terrain "trophy units" are busy assembling guns, tanks and ammunition abandoned by Germans and Rumanians. They make an incomparably larger collection than the enemy lost outside Moscow last year.

"The spirit of our people is wonderful", he says. "They have had a very tiring four months, but the Stalingrad victories have made them feel on top of the world. They have one thought—which is that in no circumstances will they allow the Germans to escape from the ring."

No Procession For Hindu Sabha President

CAWNPORE, Dec. 26.

It is understood that due to certain restrictions imposed by the local authorities on the route of the presidential procession, the Reception Committee of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha sesssion has abandoned the idea of taking out the presidential procession.—United Press.

Collective Fines For Satara Villages

A collective fine of Rs. 2,000 has been imposed on the villages of Mhavshi, Yerphale, Adul, Triputi, Bahule and Sangwad in the Satara District.

Muslims, Backward Classes, Government servants, families of serving soldiers and all who helped the police are exempt from payment of the fine.

In N. Africa

U. S. Troops' Fresh Gain

LONDON, Dec. 26.

An U. S. War Department "communique" reads, "North Africa: Units of our advanced forces after beating off enemy counter-attacks occupy a position six miles north-east of Medjez-E-Bab.

Patrols are operating in other sectors.

Adverse weather condition yesterday restricted air operations but patrol of our fighters attacked enemy ground targets in the forward area. One enemy bomber was shot down.

Reuter's special correspondent with the First Army on the Tunisian Front in a delayed message says: Troops of General Barres are doing practically all the rather limited fighting that is going on in Tunisia at present.

In the Pont Du Fahs area they have captured prisoners mainly Italian.

Some 60 miles further south, the French moved eastwards in the direction of Kairouan which is an important railway junction leading to Sousse—third city in Tunisia.

Although the French are already receiving allied equipment they are still largely non-mobile and any offensive action they initiate must as yet be on a limited scale.

German and Italian reinforcements continue to be brought into Tunisia by air in transports and gliders not only in the north-eastern corner of the country but also in southern sectors.

An hitherto unconfirmed report states that Italians have recently arrived there from Crete—believed by air.—Reuter.

Quake Shock In Istanbul On Christmas Day

ANKARA Dec. 26.

A new earthquake shock was felt in Istanbul between 2.45 and 2.50 hours on Christmas Day. Bolu Izmik, Janisehir and Eskisehir areas were also affected. The death roll in an earlier disturbance in north eastern and central Turkey is known to be much less than at first feared although the shocks were more violent than in 1939 when 50,000 people lost their lives. At Erba centre of the rich tobacco growing near the Black Sea Coast where only four houses were left standing, 474 people were killed and 605 injured.—Reuter.

KARACHI EDITORS ENDORSE BOMBAY DECISION

KARACHI, Dec. 26.

A meeting of newspaper editors of Karachi held this evening with Mr. K. Punniah, editor of the "Sind Observer" in the chair, passed a resolution "wholeheartedly endorsing the recent resolution of the Standing Committee of the All-India Newspaper Editors Conference to suspend publication of newspapers for one day and not to publish certain categories of news"—A. P.

STOP PRESS

SIR SIKANDAR'S SUDDEN DEATH

LAHORE, Dec. 27.

Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, suddenly died of heart failure at midnight.—A. P.

NEWSPRINT IMPORT FROM CANADA

Sarkar Hopes Stocks Will Be Available From March

ALLAHABAD, Dec. 26.

Shortage of newsprint and the possibility of getting imports from Canada and the United States in the near future were the topics discussed at length by the Hon. Mr. N. R. Sarkar, Commerce Member, Government of India, in a talk to the Journalists Association yesterday. Among those present were Mr. Tusharkanti Ghosh, Editor of the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" and Mr. Krishna Ram Mehta, Editor of the "Leader."

REALITY OF SITUATION

Mr. Sarkar said: "We are trying our level best to meet the situation. There is no question of want of power in this matter. You have to face the reality of the situation. I cannot manufacture ships within ten days and bring paper from Canada and the United States. There are sufficient stocks in those countries and they are anxious to sell. But if there is no shipping available even an ideal national Government would not be able to bring it. That is the reality of the situation. You must devise some scheme and advise Government how to meet the situation."

BLACK MARKETS

As for the proposal that Government should still further raise the price of newspapers, Mr. Sarkar said he would have to consult the editors and proprietors of newspapers in the country.

When it was pointed out that the 'black market' still has stocks of paper and Government should acquire them and distribute them to the more needy papers, Mr. Sarkar replied that 'black markets' were in general a matter for public opinion. He said that Government in this country were not in a position to take extreme measures for their prevention

WAR MATERIALS FIRST CLAIM

When asked if it would be possible to get some newsprint from Canada and the United States from April next, Mr. Sarkar replied: "I think that after March or April next, the position may somewhat improve. War materials must get preference even if some newspapers were to be suspended. The British Ministry in their turn are anxious to release as much shipping as is possible in order to help war effort and essential civil needs of this country."

STANDARD CLOTH

Mr. Sarkar said that standard cloth would be available in February and the position as regards cloth would be eased as Government were reducing the exports very rigorously from January. Manufacturers were willing to manufacture cloth but they only wanted to be assured that middlemen would not make profit at their expense.—A.P.

ARRESTS AT AZAD STUDENTS' CONFERENCE

(From Our Correspondent)

BARODA. (By Mail)

As declared beforehand, on the 17th instant "Azad Students' Conference" was to be held. From early morning the police began to arrest the workers. About 500 students from the State had come to attend the Conference. The president's reception at Baroda station was to be held at 10 in the morning. Many students and others were arrested there too.

The Conference it is reported, was held in Modh Wadi in Bajwada. Police encircled the place. From within, the shouting of slogans began and police entered the place, arrested Mr. Ghanubhai Master, the president, and other 15 students—secretaries and other representatives.

In the evening, resolutions of the Conference were read in an open meeting held somewhere near Ahmedabadi Pole. Police afterwards came there and arrested two students. Many persons afterwards began continuing shouting slogans there. At night in the city at two or three places 'Mashal' processions were arranged from the city about 100 arrests were made. At night most of them were released

On the 18th instant, in the morning. Prabhat Pheries were seen. In the evening processions came out near Kothi Pole, and there was a lathi charge. Some were injured. A big procession was seen behind Maharani High School. A third procession was found moving in Bajwada.

Some of the students of the Conference, while taking dinner were arrested by police from the Wadi on the 19th instant.

Mr. Nanubhai Patel was arrested but was subsequently released.

Mr. Chhotabhai Sutaria, President, State Prajamandal, has been released on parole for a few days.

NOTICE OF TEXTILE GENERAL STRIKE IN C. P

(From Our Correspondent)

NAGPUR. (By Mail)

Mr. V. G. Balwaik, Acting President, C. P. and Berar Textile Workers' Federation, Nagpur, has served a notice for a general strike to commence on the 12th January, 1943, on all the Millowners in this Province.

The strike is for redressing their grievances regarding the regularity bonus.

STAY IN STRIKE IN NADIAD MILL

(From Our Correspondent)

ANAND, Dec. 25.

A few days ago, sequel to the dismissal of one of the leaders, all the 2,000 workers of the Shorock Mill went on stay-in strike. The same was done by the workers on night shift. Yesterday, the Mill manager declared a lock-out and gave them a notice to take away their arrears of wages. The strike continues.

PETLAD STRIKE

The strike of 450 workers of the Datar match factory of Petlad still continues. They demand dearness allowance and wage increment. They have written to the Baroda Labour Officer showing their willingness to resume work if their demands are granted or the final decision is left to impartial arbitration.

Ten Thousand Congress Bulletins Seized

Police Open Fire In Ahmedabad; Incendiarism In 3 Mills

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Ten thousand Congress Bulletins were seized by the Bombay C.I.D. from a motor car on Friday while it was dashing along the Kamatipura Road. Three arrests were made in this connection.

City Processionists Arrested

Eleven persons were arrested near the Gateway of India this evening while they were attempting to take out four processions. Two more persons who were standing nearby and directing the processionists were also arrested.

Police Open Fire At Ahmedabad

Ahmedabad, December 26. One person was injured when police opened fire today to disperse a procession of boys, who indulged in stone-throwing in Raipur locality.

One policemen was injured when stones were thrown at the police at another place. Stones were thrown at the police at two other places but none was injured.—A. P.

SEVERAL LAKHS DAMAGE

(From Our Correspondent)

AHMEDABAD, Dec. 26.

(BY PHONE)

Three mills in which fire broke out and which suffered substantial damage are Aryoday Damaji Mills (Rs. 10,000), Amrit Mills (Rs. 20,000) and Taranpore Cotton Mills (Rs. 2 to 3 lakhs). The amounts in brackets indicate approximate cost of damage.

Fire In Three Ahmedabad Mills

AHMEDABAD, Dec. 26.

Fires broke out in three textile mills in the city to-night. Fire brigades battled with the flames.

The fires started in all the three mills in the mixing rooms. The fire in one was extinguished within an hour, while that in a second continued for about two hours.

The fire in the third took about three hours to be extinguished. It spread from the mixing room to the cloth godown.—A. P.

BOMB CONSPIRACY

The police is reported to have raided a house in the Raipur locality and recovered about ten empty shells. One man was arrested. The police also arrested the Bleaching Master of a local mill in connection with the conspiracy to manufacture bomb.—United Press.

Delhi Convictions

NEW DELHI, Dec. 26.

In connection with the Shahdara Railway Station fire case ten out of 15 persons were convicted under two charges. On the first charge they were sentenced to one year's R. I. and 18 months' R. I. under second charge, both the sentences to run concurrently. The remaining five were acquitted and four others were discharged earlier

Twenty-five out of 30 accused were convicted under section 147 and 436/149, I.P.C. for forming an unlawful assembly with the object of setting fire to the Railway Clearing Accounts Office on August 11 last. One of the accused was sentenced to 18 months' R. I. another to one year's R. I. and 22 others to two years' R. I. One accused was asked to furnish a bond for Rs. 1,000 to be of good behaviour for two years.

Eleven out of 15 accused were convicted under aforesaid charges for setting fire to the Income-Tax Office and were sentenced to 18 months' R. I. each. The remaining four were acquitted.

Seven persons were convicted for breaking open the door of a factory and setting fire. Six of them were sentenced to 18 months' R. I. and one was asked to furnish a bond of Rs. 1,000 to be of good behaviour for 18 months.

SURAT MERCHANT CONVICTED

SURAT: Kalidas Dalichand, a merchant of Khand Bazar, in the village of Navagam has been sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 400, or in default to undergo six months' R. I. under the D. I. R. A report of throwing some combustible substance in the post-box of Bhaga Talao Post Office has been lodged with the police. It is stated that as a result of this action a number of letters were burnt.

HOUSE SEARCHES AND ARRESTS

NEW DELHI: The local C. I. D. police searched about eight places in different parts of the city. Eight persons were arrested including a pleader and two medical practitioners under the D. I. R.

COMMUNIST LEADER ARRESTED

CALCUTTA: Mr. Panchugopal Bhaduri, a Communist leader of Bengal, according to a report received here, was arrested at Gourepore station (Mymensing). He escaped from the Hijli Detention Camp in October 1941 and has since been evading the police.

Koria Babaji of Jagatdal was sentenced by Mr. Y. A. Khan, Second Officer of Barrackpore, to six months' R. I. on a charge of possessing unauthorised leaflets, under the D. I. R. and also under the Press Emergency Powers Act. Another man named Abdul Gaffur of Jagatdal who was arrested along with Koria Babaji was acquitted.

An employee of a bank was arrested under Section 129 of the D. I. R. The houses of a pleader and a student were searched. Three workers of the All-India Spinners' Association of Barkanta Centre were arrested.

ALLOWANCE FOR TEACHERS UNDER DETENTION

SYLHET: Miss Uma Devi, a lady teacher of the Moulvi Bazar Girls' School, and Miss Lina Dutta now under detention in Sylhet Jail under the D. I. R., have been granted a personal allowance of Rs. 7, according to a statement made by Sir Mahomed Saadullah, Premier of Assam, in the Legislative Assembly.

GOVT. SCHOOLS SET ON FIRE

NOWGONG, (Assam) Dec. 25.

During last week the Puranigudam High School, the Bebejia High School and the Silghat High School, all Government-aided institutions in the District of Nowgong were set on fire. Considerable damage was done to the school buildings and property. In this connection some persons have been arrested on suspicion.—A. P.

FIRING VICTIM DIES IN POONA

Karad Police Arrests Thirteen Including Merchants

POONA, Dec. 26.

Mr. Narayan Varke, a student of the Rajaram College who was injured in the police firing at Gargoti, is reported to have succumbed to his injuries.

A report from Kolhapur says that Messrs. Balgouda Patil and Shamgouda Magdum, Prajaparishad workers of Mouje Kini, have been placed under arrest.

A message from Barsi says that the police carried out a search of the local Khadi Bhandar during the course of which they are reported to have seized a number of copies of the Marathi rendering of Mahatma Gandhi's book entitled "Harijanmadhil Venche".

Thirteen persons including some leading local merchants of Karad have been arrested by the Karad police under the Defence of India Rules, according to a report from Karad.

Prosecution has been launched against eighteen persons in connection with the recent burning of the Amargol station according to information from Dharwar.—A. P.

Middle East

SIRTE OCCUPIED; ENEMY RETREATING

BERLIN, Dec. 26.

The German News Agency reports strong Allied attacks on a height dominating Medjez-El-Bab.

WASHINGTON: The War Department reports units of advanced Allied forces fighting in Tunisia have beaten off enemy counter-attacks and now "occupy a position six miles north-east of Medjez-El-Bab."

CAIRO: The Middle East communique to-day states:

"Our troops occupied Sirte at midday yesterday and are in contact with the enemy who are withdrawing to the west. There were no important air operations over the battle area. Yesterday two heavy laden barges sailing southwards off the coast of Tunis and the railway near Sousse were successfully attacked by our fighters. From these operations one of our aircraft did not return."

The Algiers radio reports that advanced Allied troops are now within 12 miles of Tunis.

The Morocco radio reported today: "In the extreme south of Libya Allied forces coming from Chad territory are continuing their advance."—Reuter.

On Pacific Front

U. S. PLANES BOMB JAP AIR FIELD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.

An Allied headquarters, southwest Pacific, communique to-day says: "On Christmas Day our activities were limited to routine safety precautions. Divine services were held where possible."

A Navy Department communique announces: American aircraft operating from Guadalcanar bombed and stafed Japanese airfield and shore installations at Munda on New Georgia Island on Thursday.—Reuter.

"LIMITED ADVANCE" IN NEW GUINEA

Jap Pill-Boxes Knocked Down; Allies Gain Foothold On Buna Airfield

Reuter's special correspondent at Allied advanced base in New Guinea wires:

United States troops made a limited advance on the left flank of the Buna area yesterday (Friday) although activities throughout Papua were on a reduced scale. The main centres of Japanese resistance are still the Mission and the confined area along the coast where they have established strong defence works. The Japanese made some attempts to drop supplies by air for their troops on Sanananda point which they still hold in some force.

A pocket of resistance two miles south of point on the Sanananda Soputa track gives the Japanese control of the road but the pocket is showing signs of weakening. Australian soldiers walking waisthigh in water pushed their way for quarter of the mile through an evil smelling swamp to gain the first foothold on the Buna airfield. Ten pillboxes spanning the Sinemi creek had held up attack. Nine were knocked out by repeated infantry and artillery attacks. The Australian Commander then sent troops through the swamp which was apparently regarded by the Japanese as impassable and help surrounded the final pillbox. The Japanese hurriedly evacuated the pillbox which was taken by the Allies without loss.—Reuter.

Jap Attacks Must Be Hurled Back

Air Bombing Will Not Crush Spirit Of Indians, Says Aziz-ul-Haque

(From Our Own Correspondent.)
LONDON, Dec. 26.

In an exclusive statement to your correspondent Sir Aziz-ul-Haque, the High Commissioner for India said, "It was just little over a year ago that Japan openly joined the Axis Powers, and had commenced her offensive to disturb the peace in the Eastern World.

"In her professed declarations to bring prosperity all over the East, she has now chosen to bomb the innocent people of India over which vast bulk of her trade, industry and commerce thrived for decades in the past."

"My Province is now being bombed repeatedly. Japan may now kill our men women, and children, but she won't be able to kill the spirit of India, as Japan has also so far failed to crush the spirit of China.

"In spite of repeated air raids over Calcutta and other places, the civilian population has maintained and will continue to maintain the same spirit as shown by the people of Great Britain Russia, China and elsewhere, when subjected to trials and tribulations of the aerial warfare.

"My heart to-day is in my Province in my country. It is a matter of keen regret to me that because of the call of duty elsewhere, it is not possible for me to be in India, particularly with my fellow citizens in my Province at the present criticital time."

He concluded: "I do not doubt that we shall all stand united for a common effort to hurl back not only the enemy, but also to contribute to the task of restoration, as early as possible, of peace and prosperity in our country, and in the world."

READY TO EASE FOOD SITUATION IN INDIA

Indians In England Request Cooperation Of London Ministry Of Transport

(From Our Correspondent)
LONDON. Dec. 25.

Mr. Sural Ali, the Secretary of the Hindustani Social Club in London has sent letters on behalf of the Club to the Ministry for Transport, London regarding food shortage in India.

"Indian community in London", he says is willing to give some assistance, however meagre it might be, to their distressed countrymen in India, but it must be remembered that in these times of war emergency when food in every Allied country is controlled and the shipping space for it is limited requires official sanction and co-operation.

Therefore he has requested the Ministry of Transport "to be good enough to spare few minutes" of their time for an interview with some of the members of the Club so that they can talk things over and seek their co-operation and guidance for transport.

Copies of the letters have been forwarded to the India Office of the Indian High Commissioner.

Maxwell Muzzled!

Mr. B. F. Bharucha writes:—

Speaking at Ottawa, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar observed as follows:—

"Not even the Indian National Congress has any sympathy for either of the Axis Powers or their eastern counterpart, Japan"!!!

So who is right? Home Member Maxwell? Or India's Representative Ramaswami Mudaliar? Verily, Maxwell is rightly muzzled?

Darlan's Assassin Executed

ALGIERS, December 26.

Admiral Darlan's assassin was executed this morning by a firing squad.—Reuter.

COMPLETE CONFESSION

LONDON, Dec. 25.

Reuter's special correspondent Allied Headquarters in North Africa writes: A French court martial last night sentenced Darlan's assassin to death. The sentence will be carried out tomorrow morning.

The assassin made a complete confession. His name is being kept a secret for reasons of military security, but I learn that he is of French nationality.

His mother is Italian and is now living in Italy. Several letters exchanged between the assassin and his mother have been seized. but do not throw any light on the circumstances of the crime.

EISENHOWER SHOCKED

General Eisenhower has written to Madame Darlan expressing his deepest sympathy with her in her loss and his regret.

General Marshall on learning of the attack and before news was given out that Admiral Darlan was dead, promptly cabled expressing his grief and shock at the news and STATING THAT ADMIRAL DARLAN RENDERED SERVICE OF VAST IMPORTANCE TO THE ALLIES.

The French Imperial Council meets to-morrow at Algiers to deliberate over the problem presented by the death of Admiral Darlan.

General Nogues, President-General in Morocco and M. Boisson, Governor-General of French West Africa are expected in Algiers any moment.—Reuter

DARLAN'S LAST WORDS

"We Must Win The War... Today We Are Fighting Again"

Morocco radio announced to night (Thursday) that Admiral Darlan made the following statement to the French Press in North Africa a few hours before he was assassinated. "There is one task lying ahead of us which is more important than the rest—we must win the war. Yesterday we were forced to wait, to-day we are fighting again."

Admiral Darlan said the Germans made it impossible for the French to carry out a strong policy. They negotiated and tried to save what they could. Many Frenchmen fought the Axis and were still fighting France's enemies in their own way. It was desirable that all these Frenchmen should unite.

"We have all the same aim—to liberate ourselves. No one can be our enemy who is fighting against Germany."

Admiral Darlan explained that when the American landing took place in North Africa Marshal Petain ordered defence. When Admiral Darlan realised that continuation of resistance would lead to further unnecessary bloodshed he gave the order to cease fire.

When news came that Germany had broken the armistice terms Admiral Darlan was free to act again. Admiral Darlan said that he did not intend to form a Government in North Africa

He was merely watching over the French interests in the name of Marshal Petain who was prisoner in the hands of Germans

When France was free again she alone would decide her political regime and choose her rulers.

He declared that a series of new laws would appear which among other matters would rectify certain glaring injustices—for example native troops would receive the same treatment as the French forces. He added that in a year's time, French Africa would play an important part in the Allied war effort.

Sixty-two-year old Admiral Darlan played no part in politics before the French collapse in June 1940. After the collapse he became known as one of the most anti-British men in France.

Admiral Darlan was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the French Navy three months before the outbreak of the war with Germany in 1939.

During the 1914-19 war he did most of his fighting on land commanding a section of naval gunner in Lorraine, in Belgium, at Verdun in Champagne and at Salonica.

After that war he commanded a patrol flottilla on the Rhine during the occupation. He then served with the French squadron in China.

1934 he commanded the Atlantic squadron. In December 1936 he was appointed Chief of Naval Staff. Between the expulsion in December 1940 of Laval from the Vichy Government till the Germans occupied the whole of France, Admiral Darlan was the most potent member of that Government.

In February 1941, Admiral Darlan became Vice-Premier, Foreign Minister and Minister of Navy with the special provision that he should exercise all of Marshal Petain's functions if at any time the Marshal was unable to do so himself.—Reuter.

DARLAN'S FUNERAL

Allied Troops March Past In Last Tribute

LONDON, Dec. 26.

Reuter was informed at the Fighting French Headquarters that no comment was being made on Admiral Darlan's assassination. Neither was any comment obtainable in British quarters.

The coffin containing Admiral Darlan's body now lies in the candlelit Algiers Cathedral awaiting funeral.

After the funeral service in Algiers Cathedral today (Saturday), Admiral Darlan's body was taken to summer palace to await interment. Madame Darlan stood with high officers of French and Allied forces as troops of all commands including the Americans and the British, marched past in a last tribute. All members of the North African Imperial Council have now arrived in Algiers.

The Morocco Radio states mass for Admiral Darlan was held this morning (Saturday) in Rabat Cathedral. The Commander of the American forces in Morocco was present as well as the Grand Vizier as representative of the Sultan. Simultaneously a service held in the Protestant Church of Rabat was attended by the Sultan and high American officers.

DE GAULLE TO VISIT U. S. SOON

LONDON, Dec. 25.

It is understood General de Gaulle will visit the United States in early future.—Reuter.

WANTED HUR LEADER ARRESTED

KARACHI Dec. 26.

An echo of the Hur attack on the Bombay Mail near the Chhor Station on September 9 was heard when the military authorities arrested a notorious proclaimed Hur leader, Mattoo Khaskheli who is alleged to have planned and executed the attack. He is also said to have taken a leading part in the derailment of the Lahore Mail at Tando Adam on May 16 in which many persons were killed. This important arrest was made by Mr. S. Young, Commissioner of Police in the martial law area with active co-operation of the police of a neighbouring state. Another leader of a desert Hur gang has also been arrested.

ROUNDUP CONTINUE

A roundup of the Hur area near Khipro and Sanghar resulted in the arrest of a proclaimed Hur leader named Nuru Wasan. A large number of arrests are being made in Sinjhoro Taluka. Twenty arrests per day is stated to be the average bag of the police. It is also learnt that a number of Hurs of the desert area are surrendering themselves to the military.

Ali Baksh a Hur leader involved in several sensational daccities in Tharparakar District has been sentenced to three years.—A P

SESSION OF JAPANESE DIET OPENED

LONDON, Dec. 26.

The Tokio radio stated today (Saturday) that a session of the Japanese Diet was opened in the House of Peers today. The Emperor who was present had earlier received in audience the Prime Minister General Tojo and other ministers.—Reuter

Indian Chemist Killed In U. S. Accident

KALAMAZOO (Michigan), Dec 26.

Dr. P. N. Chakrovorty a noted Calcutta research chemist was killed with a girl companion on Thursday by a freight train.

Both were employed in the Up John Chemical Company.—Reuter.

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Symonds & Co., Post Box 912, Bombay. Rs. 1/- for No. 1 size; Rs. 2/- for No. 2 size and Rs. 3/- for No. 3 size post free. Liquid or Tablets.

DETECTIVE COMPETITION

In view of the fact that two competitors got Rs. 500|- each in the last competition, many requests have been received by us to give this time the most popular of all the competitions, viz., the Detective Competition as it appeals to all, young as well as the old, of both the sexes. For those who are taking part in our Competitions this is a good opportunity of putting their observation power and detective faculties to good and profitable use, as one stands to earn a considerable sum of money on spending only eight annas per entry and thus commence an auspicious New Year.

In the two series of pictures those marked A. B. C. . . . are the criminals. They are shown in their disguises in the Series numbered 1, 2, 3. Man may disguise himself as a woman or 'vice versa.' The faces are shown in almost the same position. They may be slightly lowered or raised but not turned sideways. You have to use your brains to penetrate through their disguises and pick out the criminals.

For instance, the woman shown in the illustration marked "H" has disguised herself and put on a man's dress as illustrated in No. 8. Therefore, we put No. 8 against "H" in the coupon.

You may similarly fill in the rest of the coupon and send as many entries as you like with annas eight per coupon before 6th January, 1943, subject to and observing the following rules:—

1. When you have filled in all the numbers, write your name and address in full, in block Capitals

2. All entries will be received at the counter during Office Hours from 10 a.m. to 6-30 p.m

3. Solution of this Competition will be accepted only on our entry coupons. Not more than one number should be entered against each letter

4. Insufficient Entrance Fee enclosed with entries will disqualify them

5. All entries must be received in this Office by the last Post on the closing date given below. Any entry received after this date will not be included in the competition

6. Corrected or mutilated entries or those having more than one number entered against any letter will be disqualified.

7. In case of ties the Management reserves the right to distribute the Prize Money among the winning competitors in any manner they like

8. No responsibility is accepted for any entry coupon mislaid lost or delayed. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt

9. In no case will any entrance fee or money sent with entry coupons be refunded or credited to another competition or account No communication will be accepted and replied to if is sent along with the entry coupon If any correspondence is sent along with the entries Competition Department will not be held responsible in any way

10 This Competition is run by the 'Bombay Chronicle' Co. Ltd. but readers of the "Bombay Samachar" and the "Bombay Sentinel" can also take part in it This Competition has been licensed by the Collector of Bombay under Licence No. 6 dated 12th May 1941

11. Under NO circumstances correspondence will be entered into or interviews granted in connection with this competition.

12 All Competitors enter this competition on the distinct understanding that the Competition Manager's decision is absolutely final and legally binding in all matters pertaining to this Competition This is an express condition of entry

Entries by Registered post should be addressed as under:—

COMPETITION MANAGER,
The Bombay Chronicle Co., Ltd.,
Red House,
Parsee Bazaar Street,
Fort BOMBAY.

Entrie by Ordinary Post should be addressed as under:—

Post Box No. 706 G. P.O. Bombay

CLOSING DATE WEDNESDAY 6th JAN. 1943

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Detective Competition. 27/12/42.

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I have read the rules and conditions of this Competition and I agree to abide by them

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RUPEES 2,000 IN PRIZES

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Opposite Metro Cinema, Dhobi Talao, Bombay.

BOMBAY'S LAST THREE CHANCES

to see the Southern Army Follies in

"OVER TO YOU"

With Fred Eastwood the Yorkshire Comedian, before they leave for their Tour of S. India.

Sun. Dec. 27th Mon. 28th and Tues. 29th at 6-30 P.M.

Rs. 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Advance Booking Rose & Co. 'Phone 20395.

Or if closed Garrison Theatre. 'Phone 20221

Booking open now for—

'GEORGE & MARGARET'

The play that ran for nearly two years in London

Jan. 1st Friday—Jan. 2, 3, 4, at 9 p.m.

All proceeds from all productions given to Amenities Funds for British and Indian Troops.

Get the theatre habit, always a stage show on at this Theatre. Future attractions—George and Margaret, The Menaka Dance Centre, The Gondoliers, Mino the Mystic and his Coy of Indian Classical Dancers and Actors. The Comedy Theatre Success "Punch Without Judy", etc., etc., etc., etc.

DADAR NATIONAL HOTEL

MAIN ROAD. DADAR,

BOMBAY 14.

BOARDING AND LODGING CUISINE—THE BEST

ACCOMMODATION ONLY FOR RAILWAY PASSENGERS.

FREE

Send /4/- stamps first to get the miraculously effective medicines of any Sexual Disorder free for trial to get fully convinced of their action before spending and avoid deception as at other places For secret details send -/4/- stamps for the book "Sexual Guide" (110 pages)

KAVIRAJ KHAZAN CHAND B.A.

Famous Sex Specialist and Gold Medalist Chamberlain Road. Lahore 'Phone 4848

SHE SURRENDERED her LOVER to her RIVAL!

What a noble sacrifice you will say after seeing this throbbing drama of human emotions!

M. P. PRODUCTIONS'

Jawab

The picture which Bombay is crazy about!

KANAN, JAMUNA, BARUA

Music: KAMAL DAS GUPTA

A SUPREME RELEASE

12TH WEEK

IMPERIAL

Daily 4, 7 & 10 P.M.

Sat., Sun., Holidays 1 P.M.

Begin The NEW-YEAR With FUN

Jawani

—The laugh-loaded Comedy

Starring:

SURENDRA, HUSN BANU with KABULI, SANKATHA, QUIYAMALI, GULZAR, etc.

Directed by:

VAJAHAT MIRZA CHANGEZEE

GALA OPENING ON

1ST JANUARY

AT SWASTIK

Tel. 41561

Book Your Seats Now

BRAVO, BOMBAY GOVT.!

BRAVO, BHAKTA-KABIR!

—WHO IS NOW

FREE

TO ENTERTAIN YOU ALL!...

9th WEEK

MINERVA

Daily: 3-30, 6-30 and 9-30 p.m

Sat., Sun. & Holidays at 12-45 p.m

'GRAPES OF WRATH' TO-DAY

Rare Opportunity To See Progressive Film

Under the joint auspices of the Indian Peoples Theatre Association Keraliya and Phozilali Seva Sangham there will be a cinema show of "Grapes of Wrath" to-day (Sunday) at 10 a.m. at Apollo (Surya) Cinema, Poibawadi, Parel.

The rates are fixed at 4 as. and 2 as. for the benefit of the working class, and tickets can be had at the gates from 9 a.m. to-day.

"Grapes Of Wrath", based on the world-famous novel by John Steinbeck, is recognised as one of the most progressive and realistic pictures to come out of Hollywood and is directed by the well-known director, John Ford.

Radio Highlights Of Christmas Week

On Sunday (to-day) a recital of classical music will be given by J. L. Ranade. Gangubai of Hubli will give a rendering of Gaudsarang, Shree and Darbar.

On Monday classical music will be sung by Laxmi Bai Kelkar. Y. T. Parvate will broadcast classical music and Marathi song.

On Tuesday, Sawai Gandharv will sing songs set in Deskar Puria. Dhanashri and Jaijaiwanti. Light Hindustani melodies will be sung by Amirbai Karnataki.

On Wednesday, classical music will be given by Sitarampant Mody, a disciple of the late Bhatkhande. Master Iqbal who will give light Hindustani music. Gujarati geets will be sung by Mohan P. Marwadi.

On Thursday, classical music will be broadcast by Shrimatibai Narvekar and Swami Vallabhdas. Dinanath of Surat will give a recital of Gujerati songs.

On Friday, the 1st January, 1943 Moghubhai Kurdikar will entertain listeners to a recital of classical music. Light Hindustani music will be given by H. Khan Mastana. Gujerati geets will be sung by B. P. Bhatt, Popular compositions by Brahmanand and Mirabai will be rendered by Mohan Nagarkar.

"Kaikhashru Kabaraji" is the title of a feature in Gujerati written by Gool Jehangir Chinoy. It will present the life of the famous Parsi social reformer and literature, Kabaraji. It will be produced by A. I. R. artists at 12 noon on Sunday the 27th December 1942. "Raz-o-Niaz" a comedy in Hindustani entitled "Raz-o-Niaz" written by Rafie Peer, will be produced by Hafeez Hoshiarpuri at 12 noon on Friday the 1st of January, 1943.

"Vasantsena" At Novelty Eighth Week

Atre Pictures' 'Vasantsena' continues to achieve increasing popularity day by day at Novelty in the fifth week.

The Public is satisfied with the performance that 'Vanmala'—who plays the titular role has put in "Vasantsena". The dances she gives are brilliant. The dances draw applauses from the crowds specially the lotus-petal dance and Raga-dance draw tremendous ovation.

"Ten O'clock' Takes Roots

Prabhat's "Ten O'Clock" enters the fifth week at the Central to-day and that the house continues to be full at show after show. The rush in the earlier weeks was a tribute to Prabhat The tribute now is to the men and women who made the film headed by Director Raja Nene.

"Basant" On The Threshold Of Jubilee

With its lovely songs and engaging dances, the Bombay Talkies' picture "Basant", directed by Amiya Chakravarty, is enjoying a well merited popularity at the Majestic. The picture reaches its Silver Jubilee early next month, and it may well look up to a long run beyond.

Mr. Vishnu Aundhkar, well-known playwright and actor, on both the stage and screen passed away on December 15 at Kolhapur. He was working with Prakash Pictures as their Literary Adviser.

Jyotsna Bhole's Music

By YESHWANT T. PARVATE

On Friday morning, Navinya Kalottejak Mandal arranged its third concert. The songstress was Mrs. Jyotsna Bhole, the well-known radio star and the stage artiste of Natya Niketan fame.

Mrs. Jyotsna Bhole selected her first raag as Asavari and also developed its tarana. This was followed by Bilawal. She rendered both raags beautifully.

After the interval she sang light music and selections of the 'bhavgeets' were among the popular ones. She also included two 'pads' from the drama 'Kulvadhu' at the request of the audience. The last item was a beautiful song in Bhairavi.

Entertainment At Garrison Theatre

The Southern Army Entertainments Branch, Bombay, has opened an unexpected theatrical season in Bombay. Some of London's best stage artists will give a series of performances at Garrison Theatre (old Wellington Cinema) Dhobi Talao for some months.

The inaugural performance was "Over To You" the next attraction will be "George and Margaret" by the Poona Dramatic Club Society. From January 1 to 4 and on January 9. Menaka will be there with her popular dances.

The Officer-in-Charge is anxious that more Indians should patronise these shows. A resident repertory company will put up a series of shows for two months from February. They will enact excerpts from the classics and Shakespeare. This programme ought to interest the educational authorities.

Sunday Cinema Shows

"Forty Thousand Horses" at Kohinoor at 10 A. M.

"Strawberry Blonde" at Strand at 10-30 A. M.

"Devil's Brother" at Palace at 10 A. M.

"Nice Girl" at Paradise at 10-30 A. M.

"One Night in the Tropics" at Capitol at 10-30 A. M.

"Sun Valley Serenade" at Eros at 10 A. M.

"Merry Widow" at Metro at 10 A. M.

"Saboteur" at Regal at 10-30 A.M

Ban On Funeral Pyres In Calcutta

CALCUTTA, Dec. 26.

During the night, lights from funeral pires are likely to give indication to the enemy aircraft of the location and they may be mistaken for workshops and may become target for attack by enemy bombers

The Chief Executive Officer of the Calcutta Corporation has, therefore passed order prohibiting until further notice the lighting of funeral pyres between the hour of 4 p.m. and 4 a.m.—A. P.

City And Suburbs

LOCAL ENGAGEMENTS To-day

Hindu : Magsar Vad 5, 1999
Muslim : Jilhej 18, 1361
Parsi : Tir 24, 1312
Sunrise : 8-12 a.m. Sunset : 7-8 p.m.
Hightide : 2-34, 14-28. Lowtide : 8-50, 20-14.

AMUSEMENTS OF THE DAY

BROADWAY—"Ankh Michaoli" 4-30, 7-15 and 10 p.m. To-day 1-30 p.m.
KOHINOOR—"Roti" 4, 7 and 10 p.m. To-day 1 p.m.
CITY LIGHT—"Doctor" 4-30, 7-15 and 10 p.m. To-day 2 p.m.
SUPER—"Gora Kumbhar" 4-15, 7 and 9-45 p.m. To-day 1-30 p.m.
NOVELTY—"Vasant Sena" 4, 7 and 10 p.m.
CAPITOL—"Pardon My Sarong" 4, 6-30 and 9-30 p.m.
SWASTIK—"Damaji" 3-30, 6-30 and 9-30 p.m. To-day 1 p.m.
REGAL—"Lady in a Jam" 4, 6-30 and 9-30
KRISHNA—"Ever Yours" 4-30, 7-15 and 10 p.m. To-day 2 p.m.
MINERVA—"Bhakta Kabir" 3-30, 6-30 and 9-30 p.m. To-day 12-45 p.m.
METRO—"Cross Roads" 3-30, 6-30 and 9-30
LAMINGTON—"Ek-Raat" 4, 7 and 10 p.m. To-day 1 p.m.
NEW EMPIRE—"Syncopation" 3-30, 6-30 and 9-30 p.m.
EXCELSIOR—"Rudyard Kiplings's Jungle Book" 3-30, 6-30 and 9-30 p.m.
STRAND—"Lady Hamilton" 3-30, 6-30 and 9-30 p.m.
LIGHT HOUSE—"Great Guns" 4-30, 7 and 10
EROS—"This Above All" 3-30, 6-30 and 9-30
IMPERIAL—"Jawab" 4, 7 and 10 p.m. To-day 1 p.m.
HIND-MATA—"Bharat Milap" 4, 7 and 10 p.m. To-day 1 p.m.
APOLLO—"On The River" 4-30, 7 and 10 p.m. To-day 2 p.m.
CHITRA—"Khan-Daan" 3, 6-15 and 9-30 p.m. To-day 11-45 a.m.
EDWARD—"The Thief of Bagdad" 4, 6-30 and 10 p.m
AURORA—"Sergeant York" 4, 6-30 and 10
PALACE—"Ball of Fire" 4, 6-30 and 10 p.m.
CENTRAL—"Ten O'Clock" 4, 7 and 10 p.m. To-day 1 p.m.
NEW WEST-END—"Zamindar" 3, 6-30 and 10 p.m. To-day 10 a.m.
OPERA HOUSE—"Surdas" 2-30, 5, 7-30 and 10 p.m.
MAJESTIC—"Basant" 3-30, 6-30 and 9-30 p.m. To-day 12-30 noon.
ROXY—"Jhoola" 2-15, 5-45 and 9 p.m.

RAMANA JAYANTI AT MATUNGA : To-day's programme, 6 to 10 a.m. Rudra-Abhishekam. 11 a.m. to 12 noon, "Significance of Yoga, with demonstrations, such as, Asanas, Pranayamams, etc., by Yogiraj Umesh Chandraji of Shree Ramthirth Yogashram". 4-30 to 6 p.m. Musical entertainment by Sri. Yagneswara Bhagavather. 6-30 to 7-30 p.m. Religious discourse by Sri R. G. Nadkarni, on "Life and Teachings of Shree Bhagwan Ramana" in English. 9-30 to 11 p.m. Musical entertainment by Sri. M. A. Anantha Ramier.

BAND AT BAPTISTA GARDENS : The Original Imperial Band will play a programme of music at Joseph Baptista Gardens (Bhandarwada Reservoir) to-day (Sunday) commencing from 5-15 to 7-15 p.m. (S.T.).

INDIAN MUSIC AT KING'S CIRCLE : A concert of Indian music organised by the Bombay Municipality will be given at King's Circle Bandstand, to-day (Sunday) commencing from 6 to 8 p.m. (S.T.) by Prof. S. D. Khatu.

LECTURE ON JNANESHWAR : Mr. B. M. Patnekar of Belgaum will give a religious discourse at Ramakrishna Vivekananda Centre, 64, Portuguese Church Street, Dadar (B. B. and C. I. Railway), to-day at 5 p.m. on "Jnaneshwar"

WHAT IS SOUL? : At Arya Samaj, Vithalbhai Patel Road, to-day (Sunday) at 7-30 p.m. (S.T.), when Shri Pandit Vijayshankerji will deliver a public lecture on "What is Soul?"

PUNJAB-FRONTIER ASSOCIATION : The meeting of the Punjab and Frontier Association will be held to-day (Sunday) at 4 p.m. in the Association Hall, 399 Kalbadevi Road, (opposite Bhatia Mahajanwadi), Bombay.

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS : "Man's Sevenfold Nature" will be subject of public lecture at Jehangir Wadia Building, opposite Flora Fountain, to-day (Sunday) at 6-15 p.m.

MILK TRADE WORKERS' MEETING : A meeting of all workers connected with the milk trade of the City and Suburbs will be held to-day (Sunday) at 5 p.m. (N.S.T.) at Babu Ramdhari Singh's Bungalow, Military Road, Santa Cruz, East.

MATUNGA ARYA SAMAJ : Shreeman Pt. Nagardasji will deliver a public lecture on "Ved-Katha" in the Arya Samaj Mandir, Matunga (G.I.P.) to-day (Sunday) at 9 a.m.

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY ALIGARH 'OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION'S DINNER

A dinner has been arranged at the "Khilafat House," Love Lane, on January 9, 1943, at 7-30 p.m. Those wishing to join may please inform M. K. Azad at least 3 days before with the subscription of Rs. 3 per head. Telephone Number 41818, New Nagpada Road.

Mr. V. N. Vartak Dead

The Hon Secretary of the Bombay Engineering Congress writes :—

Mr. V. N. Vartak, Retired Chief Engineer, Bombay, P. W. D., passed away on Monday last at his residence in Poona. He retired from Government Service in 1926 from Karachi (Sind) and after retirement served for two years in the Gwalior State as Chief Enginer for Irrigation. Since 1931, he settled down in Poona and gave the benefit of his wide knowledge and experience to several Educational Institutions as an Honorary Consulting Engineer. He was a prominent member on the Irrigation Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government to enquire into the Deccan Canals Irrigation. He also served on the Advisory Board appointed by Government for reporting on the rates charged by the Electric Supply Companies in the Bombay Presidency. He leaves behind him his wife, four sons and a daughter. The youngest of his sons is at present in England serving as Ground Engineer in the R. A. F.

CITY OBSERVES BOXING DAY

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The courts, banks, and commercial houses were closed to-day being the second day of Xmas known in England as "Boxing" Day as it is the day on which "Christmas Boxes" (Baksheesh) are distributed. This day is also observed in the churches as St. Stephen's Day to commemorate the martyrdom of St. Stephen, the first martyr of Christianity. Thousands flooded the race-course. Theatres and Cinemas were crowded at early shows as well as other places of amusements. Hotels and restaurants are reaping a rich harvest these last two days.

Christmas Mass At Parel

(From A Correspondent.)

The St. Xavier's College Gymkhana ground, Parel, was the scene of very happy memories for many years to come; for on the night of the 24th Dec. an Open Air Mass was held for the first time in the history of the north of the city on such a grand scale.

Rev. Fr. A. Lamolla S. J. Parish priest of St. Paul's Church and the Rector of the Diocesan Seminary celebrated the Solemn High Mass. In a beautifully worded short sermon he exhorted the Christians to pray for unity and Good-will amongst men and nations. "Charity demands of us to think of the war torn countries of the world so that they may return to peace and Harmony".

Appropriate music was rendered by the Church choir reinforced by the seminarians

This function was made a success through the generous help of the St. Xavier's College Gymkhana Authorities and a band of enthusiastic young men of the Parish under the guidance of Rev. Fr. Gemenez S. J.

How To End Food Crisis

Mr. Khimji M. Bhujpuria, ex-President of the Bombay Grain-dealers' Association writes :—

"Whenever there is an acute shortage or scarcity of foodstuffs in the city, consumers blame the retail dealers for prices; because they are in direct contact with the dealers, people never look at what fancy prices the retailers are obtaining their supplies from the wholesale markets.

The present situation regarding food grains is quite abnormal. Coarse rice, staple food of the majority of the poor class people, is quoted at Rs. 36 to Rs. 38 per bag of 163 lbs. in the wholesale rice market. Cost per paylee comes to Rs. 1-8-0 to Rs. 1-9-0. Bajri is quoted at Rs. 112 per Khandy. Cost per paylee comes to more than a rupee. Wheat and Juwar, are not available at all from the wholesale market. Barley and maize are quoted at Rs. 100. per Khandy. While their normal prices should not be more than 30 to 40 rupees. Nagly a third grade of millet, is quoted at Rs. 75 per Khandy, while its normal price is never more than 35 rupees. per Khandy. Cost prices of Barley maize and Nagli come to 14 annas 14 annas and 12 annas respectively.

On the one hand retailers have to pay such disproportionate and abnormal prices in the wholesale grain markets; and, on the other hand, Government godowns have been entirely closed to the retail trade for the last one month. For Jirasar rice Government have made arrangement for its supply from Bhat Bazar merchants, but the quantity is released is so small proportionately and the method of issuing permits so slow that it is not likely that the rice price index will go down to any appreciable extent.

The only way to bring down the rice prices, is to import and continue importing rice from the surplus provinces immediately and at all cost Those who intend to import rice should be given all possible facilities. Central Government must compel the hesitating surplus provinces to supply the deficit ones.

If this tangle is not solved speedily, and provincial tug-of-war is not brought to an end immediately, confusion is likely to be worst confounded.

No Wheat For Cakes Or Pastry

A Bombay Government Gazette Extraordinary published on Saturday, states :—

The Government of Bombay is pleased to direct that no person within the limits of the City of Bombay and the Bombay Suburban District shall, with effect from the date of this Order, use wheat flour or any other wheat product for the preparation of cakes, pastry or any kind of sweetmeats whatever, except under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence granted by the Director of Civil Supplies, Bombay, or a person authorised by him in that behalf.

FOOD RATIONING IN INDORE

BOMBAY, Dec. 26.

In view of an acute shortage of the essential commodities a food rationing scheme was introduced in Indore State in August last and four months' working of the scheme shows that it has been a success, states a report received from the Information Officer, Holkar State.

Distribution is arranged by means of coupons distributed to people at their residences. Supplementary coupons are issued to meet extra requirements on account of guests, ceremonies, festivals. Restaurant owners and confectioners are given special monthly coupons to meet their business requirements.—United Press

FOR CHINESE SOLDIERS' COMFORTS

BOMBAY, Dec. 24

In view of the approach of the new year, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek has ordered the appropriation of a big fund to comfort the Chinese soldiers either wounded or disabled, according to the Chungking Radio today.

Campaign is to be started in Chungking to comfort the Shinese armed forces on New Year's Day. The All-China Troop Comforting Association will appropriate 50,000 dollars to comfort the Gendarme, troops, land and naval forces in the wartime capital (Chungking), and 30,000 dollars to comfort the Allied and Chinese air forces.

Bomb In City Restaurant

Several Injured In Explosion

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Some persons are believed to have received slight injuries, when at 8-45 p.m. a bomb exploded in a Chinese restaurant at the junction of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Road and Mint Road.

The bomb, it is learnt, was thrown by a passerby through the window.

ACID THROWN ON MAN IN VICTORIA

BOMBAY, Saturday.

One person who was going in a victoria last night near Maharbourie, sustained injuries all over his face when a passerby threw acid on him.

QUININE POLICY OF GOVT. OF BOMBAY DISAPPROVED

A meeting of the Bombay Medical Profession was held on the 16th instant, under the auspices of the Bombay Medical Association, at G. S. Medical College, presided over by Dr. K. K. Dadachanji, the President of the Association to disapprove the Quinine policy of the local Government.

Dr. Dadachanji, said that the local Government had adopted a callous attitude in dealing with the problems of public health, and particularly, with that of the greed of the inhuman profiteers in drugs and medical requisites, who were given a free hand to loot and exploit the suffering public Malaria was the first among the "Killing Diseases of India". Malaria killed every year fifteen lakhs, and maimed and incapacitated ten crores of our people, yet neither the Central nor the local Government had till now adopted an effective quinine and atebrine policy for its treatment, or any sanitary policy for its eradication and prevention. The local Government, though apprised of these facts through the resolutions passed at a medical meeting two months back had been in labour and brought forth a mouse in the shape of a Press Note, generously providing 2 ounces of quinine for each doctor for the whole month. Each doctor had scores of patients of malaria on his waiting list but he could treat only 8 patients in a month! Government has failed to control the nefarious profiteers in quinine, who charge Rs. 350 or more per pound of quinine, purchased by them at Rs. 18 per pound. These inhuman profiteers have hoarded 3,000 lbs. of quinine. We hereby call upon the Government to requisition, ration and control this hoarded stock without delay.

In the Press Note Government says nothing about atebrine, the effective substitute for quinine, which could be cheaply manufactured at the Haffkine Institute on a large scale, provided the raw material were procured from the U. S. America, as an essential War Time Measure, as it could be supplied both to the Civil as well as the Military medical institutions, and the public. It took 10 years to grow quinine plants, but it did not take as many weeks to manufacture atebrine on any required scale in a big factory.

Recapitulating the demands of the Bombay Medical Profession, Dr. Dadachanji said that, (1) The Bombay Government must freeze and distribute the 3,000 lbs. of quinine in the hands of the Bombay profiteers, (2) procure from the Government of India adequate supplies of the hoarded quinine, (3) fix the price at Rs. 35 per lb, and not at the profiteering price of Rs. 60, (4) control adequately the sale of the drug, (5) import available stocks of prepared atebrine, as well as raw material for its local manufacture at the Haffkine Institute from U. S. A. by air-planes, specially chartered for the purpose.

The following resolutions were then duly moved and seconded and passed unanimously :—

RESOLUTIONS.

(1) "This meeting of the Bombay Medical Association disapproves the dilatory and unsatisfactory quinine policy and press-note of the Government of Bombay, permitting the distribution and sale of only two ounces of quinine per medical practitioner, who can treat only eight malarial patients in a month, at a time when malaria is causing havoc amongst millions of its victims, and in the name of humanity calls upon the local Government to implement the resolutions of the meeting of the local Medical Profession, held on the 10th October, without any further delay, and in particular, to requisition, ration and control the sale of 3,000 pounds of quinine hoarded by profiteers of the Dava Bazar in Bombay and further, to expedite the import from the United States of America of adequate quantities of prepared atebrine as well as of the raw materials for its local manufacture at the Haffkine Institute, by chartering Air-Planes for its rapid transport." (2) "This meeting authorises the President to forward these resolutions to the Government the Press and the Medical Associations, and to take all necessary steps for their implementation."

Ara's Paintings On Exhibition

(From A Correspondent.)

Mr. K. M. Ara is already known to the Bombay public as a prize winner at the Bombay Art Society's Annual Exhibition.

Working as a motor car cleaner and in other humble jobs, he spent all his income and his spare time on painting. Two years ago he startled artists, critics and art lovers in Bombay by a series of colourful and spontaneous landscapes in oil and water colour.

During the last year, Mr. Ara had an opportunity of devoting all his time to painting and the present exhibition will give a good account of a year spent in hard work and study.

This self-taught artist has a very original style of his own and his personal reactions to things he sees have led to charming and most impressive works of art.

The exhibition will be opened by Mr. C. R. Gerrard, on Monday December 28th, 6-30 p.m. and will be open to the public on Tuesday and Wednesday December 29 and 30 from 11 a.m. to 7-30 p.m. on Entrance fee at the gate of the Bombay Art Society's Salon 6 Rampart Row, Bombay.

RICE MUST BE IMPORTED FROM SURPLUS PROVINCES

Mr. Khimji M. Bhujpuria Ex-President of the Grain Dealers' Association has issued the following statement :—

Whenever there is an acute shortage or scarcity of foodstuffs in the city, consumers blame the retail dealers for prices; because they are in direct contact with the dealers, people never look at what fancy prices the retailers are obtaining their supplies from the wholesale markets.

Present situation regarding foodgrains is quite abnormal. Coarse rice, is quoted at Rs. 36 to Rs. 38 per bag of 163 lbs. in the wholesale rice market. Cost per paylee comes to Rs. 1-8-0 to Rs. 1-9-0.

Bajri is quoted at Rs. 112 per khandi. Cost per paylee comes to more than a rupee. Wheat and juwar are not available at all from the wholesale market.

Barley and maize are quoted at Rs. 100 per khandy. While their normal prices should not be more than 30 to 40 rupees. Nagly a third grade of millet, is quoted at Rs. 75 per khandy, while its normal price is never more than 35 rupees, per khandy. Cost prices of Barley, maize and Nagli come to 14 annas 14 annas and 12 annas respectively.

On the one hand retailers have to pay such disproportionate and abnormal prices in the wholesale grain markets; and on the other hand, Government godowns have been entirely closed to the retail trade for the last one month. For Jirasal rice Government have made artangement for its supply from Bhat Bazar merchants, but the quantity released is so small proportionately and the method of issuing permits so slow that it is not likely that the rice price index will go down to any appreciable extent.

The only way to bring down the rice prices, is to import and continue importing rice from the surplus provinces immediately and at all cost. Those who intend to import rice should be given all possible facilities. Central Government must compel the hesitating surplus provinces to supply the deficit ones.

If this tangle is not solved speedily, and provincial tug-of-war is not brought to an end immediately, confusion is likely to be worst confounded.

Mileage Of Roads In Bombay Presidency

The Director of Information, Bombay, in the course of a press note states :—

"The total mileage of roads maintained by the Public Works Department, Bombay, during 1941-42 was 20,638, of which 10,456 miles were metalled and the remainder unmetalled, according to the Administration Report of the Department for that year. Of this total 4,142 miles of metalled road and 9,822 miles of unmetalled road were in charge of local bodies.

A sum of Rs. 97,95,334 (Rs. 60,15,671 on original works and Rs. 37,79,663 on repairs respectively) was spent during the year on communication works."

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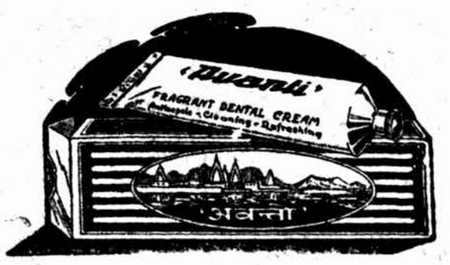
AVANTI

THE TOOTH PASTE



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R. D. P. OUT TO WIN PEOPLES CONFIDENCE

ROY OPENS ALL-INDIA CONFERENCE SESSION AT LUCKNOW

LUCKNOW, Dec. 25.

The open session of the All-India Radical Democratic Party Conference began this afternoon in the Ganga Prasad Memorial Hall.

About four hundred delegates from different parts of the country were present. Mr. A. K. Pillai of Madras presided.

Opening the Conference Mr. M. N. Roy said, "Let us not quarrel with Mr Churchill or doubt the motives of President Roosevelt. If you think that Mr. Churchill is not a good enough democrat, let us be better democrats. If we find that others do not do enough to have democracy let us spring in the breach and save it ourselves.'

"The political programme of our party is the accomplishment of the national democratic revolution. That cannot be attained if Fascism triumphs destruction of Fascism by fighting and winning the war is. therefore, the first essential precondition for the attainment of that programme, said Mr. V. G Karnik, General Secretary of the Party, presenting the report of the Central Executive Committee to the Conference.

Concluding the General Secretary urged the need of popularising the social and economic programme of the national democratic revolution and of placing before the people the picture of the new world that they must be thought to aspire for and be prepared to fight for.

It was by working in this fashion that the R. D. P. would be able to win the confidence and support of the people.—A P.

Kalappa On Nizam's Rly. Labour Dispute

HYDERABAD (Dn.) Dec. 25.

It is understood that Mr. V. R. Kalappa President of the B. N. Railway Employees Union, who arrived here on Monday last interviewed the General Manager of H. E. H. the Nizam's Railway and Lt.-Col. E. W. Slaughter, Director of the Railway Board, in connection with the railway labour dispute.

Mr. Kalappa also interviewed the Nawab Sahib of Chhatari, President of H. E. H. the Nizam's Executive Council. The interview was cordial and the Nawab Sahib gave Mr Kalappa a patient hearing.

In an interview Mr. Kalappa said that the negotiations for a settlement of the dispute were still proceeding.—United Press.

TO-DAY ON RADIO

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

Delhi I—Programme

338.6 metres (886 kc/s)

5 p.m. Mile Jule Gane. 5-20 Nabi Jan. 5-30 Lakshman Prasad. 5-45 Chandabai. 5-55 Sukhdev Prasad 6-10 Anwarbai. 6-45 Chandabai. 6-55 Nabi Jan. 7 Jawab Men. 7-15 Lakshman Prasad. 7-30 Programme parade. 7-45 For villagers only. 8-30 Chandabai. 8-40 Nabi Jan. 8-45 Delhi Radio Orchestra. 8-55 Jawabi Hamla. 9-30 B B C News. 9-45 Caravanserai. 10 Blanca Schlamn. 10-35 Yehudi Menuhin 10-45 Chandabai. 10-55 Sarangi recital.

Bombay I—Programme

244 metres (1,231 kc/s)

8 a.m. Instrumental duet. 8-5 News in Hindustani. 8-15 News in English. 8-30 Vocal variety. 8-50 News in Marathi. 9 News in Gujarati. 9-10 Ghazals. 9-30 Ali Bakhsh Zahoor. 9-45 Pannalal Ghosh 10 Gangubai. 11 Air Orchestra. 11-10 J. L. Ranade. 11-30 News-play. 11-45 Ram Marathe. 12 p.m. Kaikhashru Kabaraji. 12-30 Ali Bakhsh Zahoor. 12-45 News in Marathi. 12-50 News in Gujarati. 12-55 News in Hindustani. 1 Nisar Husain. 1-30 News in English. 1-40 Lunch-hour music. 5 To-morrow. 5-5 J. L. Ranade. 5-35 Pannalal Ghosh. 5-55 Local news and announcements. 6 Gangubai. 6-30 News in English. 6-40 News in Hindustani 6-45 News commentary. 6-50 Ram Marathe 7-10 Thumri Tilang. 7-15 R. D. Ambegaonkar 7-30 Ali Bakhsh Zahoor. 7-45 News in Marathi. 7-55 News in Gujarati. 8-5 Ram Marathe. 8-15 Duets. 8-30 to 8-45 Imaginary Interview (B. B. C. Recorded). 8-45 News-play. 9-0 News in Hindustani. 9-20 News in English. 9-30 B B C News relay 9-45 Caravanserai. 10 The Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Bombay II—Programme

49.3 metres (6,085 kc/s)

8 to 8-5 a.m. As in Bombay 1. 8-5 Three Khayals. 8-15 to 8-50 As in Bombay 1. 8-50 Gujarati Ghazal. 9 Indian music 9-10 to 10-30 As in Bombay 1

41.44 metres (7,240 kc/s)

11 to 2-30 p.m. As in Bombay 1.

49.3 metres (6,085 kc/s)

5 to 7-15 As in Bombay 1 7-15 Interval.

89.15 metres (3,365 kc/s)

7-30 to 7-45 As in Bombay 1. 7-45 Nisar Husain. 8-5 to 9 As in Bombay 1. 9 J. L. Ranade. 9-15 Ali Bakhsh Zahoor. 9-25 Gangubai. 9-45 to 10 As in Bombay 1. 10 Pannalal Ghosh. 10-15 Nisar Husain.

Bombay Xmas Meeting Sixth Day

Big Treble For Gwalior

Neglected Night Sentry Wins Aga Khan's Cup

From Our Racing Correspondent

Punters who had attended the races today (Saturday) at Mahalaxmi in big numbers experienced lean time as several favourites failed to materialise.

The Aga Khan's Cup was won by the neglected Night Sentry who received good handling from Meekings.

The feature of the sport was a big treble for the Maharaja of Gwalior. The terracotta livery recorded success through the medium of Wellington, Trusty and Fair Ina.

Roberts alone scored a double while, Raut, Chavan, Evans, Meekings, Khade, Britt and Sibbritt were associated with a winner each.

As many as forty nominators of the double event collected each Rs. 403/- and only four punters who solved the treble event were each rewarded with Rs. 6816. The following are the results:—

THE BELLASIS PLATE. Division II.—Distance 1 mile.
Mr B M Goculdas' NASSAR 9-0 Raut ... 1
Mr Sion F Nessim's MACDONALD 7-6 Uttamsingh ... 2
Messrs Agab Abdulla and Alwan Jawad's BRAGANZA 8-12 Kheemsingh ... 3
Mr P B Avasia's WAFI HAMID 9-0 B Khalil ... 4
All ran.
Won by: 3 lengths, 4 lengths, Short head
Time: 1 minute 55 2/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 155. Places Rs. 38, Rs. 18 and Rs. 19.
Trainer: Dr S K Pillay.

THE BELLASIS PLATE. Division I.—Distance 1 mile.
H H the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior's WELLINGTON 8-11 Roberts ... 1
H H the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda's ARMOUR 8-7 Britt ... 2
Messrs C N Permanand and Sayid Talib's JOWDAT AL IRAQ 8-7 Raffaele ... 3
Mr A J Moshi's MUBARAK 8-2 Virsingh ... 4
Not run: Janab.
Won by: Head, 2 1/2 lengths, 2 lengths.
Time: 1 minute 52 4/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 55. Places Rs. 25, Rs. 48 and Rs. 14.
Trainer: Capt. K P Jadhav.

THE KARACHI PLATE.—Distance 1 mile. 1 furlong.
H H the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior's TRUSTY 8-12 Roberts ... 1
Mr M D Petit's PIERRE 9-4 Evans ... 2
Mr A Fatah's MEHJABIN 8-2 Southey ... 3
H H the Maharaja of Idar's DRY SHERRY 7-11 Sibbritt ... 4
Not run: Pay Master, Pom Pom II, Lakhpat and Victor.
Won by: Short head, neck, 1/2 length.
Time: 1 minute 58 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 114. Places Rs. 30. Rs. 20 and Rs. 22.
Trainer: Capt. K. P. Jadhav.

THE ROCKHAMPTON PLATE. Division II.—Distance 1 mile.
Mr G L Shinde's GIPSY SONG 9-0 Chavan ... 1
Messrs C S Senanayake and K Adamally's DOCTRINE 7-12 P Khade ... 2
Mr Andrew's WONDERFUL 8-7 B Khalil 3
Mr F S Kerr's CARNIVAL 8-0 Mullsingh 4
Not run: Sundial and Ramban.
Won by: 4 lengths, short head, 2 lengths.
Time: 1 minute 41 3/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 31. Places Rs. 13, Rs. 18 and Rs. 16.
Trainer: Owner.

THE TULSI PLATE. Division II.—Distance 1 1/4 miles.
Mr E S Minaly's SUKAB RAMZI 9-2 Evans ... 1
H H the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda's BANASH AMER 8-9 Britt ... 2
H H the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior's BOONIAN 8-2 West ... 3
Mr F Amarasuriya's ABJAR SU'AD 8-8 Rook ... 4
Not run: Muwaffaq al Ilah, Prince Naji and Zamil al Iraq.
Won by: Neck, 2 lengths, head.
Time: 2 minutes 21 3/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 117. Places Rs. 50, Rs. 61 and Rs. 106.
Trainer: A. L. J. Talib.

THE AGA KHAN'S CUP.—Distance 1 1/2 miles.
Mr E P A Fernando's NIGHT SENTRY 8-9 Meekings ... 1
H H the Maharaja of Kashmir's GREETINGS 8-13 Morley ... 2
Mr A S Tyebjee's SITARA 8-10 West ... 3
H H the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior's PIERROT 9-2 Roberts ... 4
All ran.
Won by: 2 lengths, short head, 3/4 length.
Time: 2 minutes 41 3/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 120. Places Rs. 20, Rs. 16 and Rs. 15.
Trainer: O. Aldridge.

THE DONCASTER PLATE.—Distance 6 furlongs
H H the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior's FAIR INA 8-4 Khade ... 1
H H the Prince of Berar's HIGHLAND SPRIG 8-11 Raffaele ... 2
Mr M C M Salim's LOTHARIC 7-11 Sibbritt ... 3
H H the Maharani Regent of Kolhapur's GLORY OF KOLHAPUR 7-9 Chavan ... 4
All ran.
Won by: 2 lengths, 4 lengths, neck.
Time: 1 minute 14 1/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 80. Places Rs. 102, Rs. 17 and Rs. 28.
Trainer: Capt. K P Jadhav.

THE TULSI PLATE. Division I.—Distance 1 1/4 miles.
H H the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda's CHIEF RULER 9-7 Britt ... 1
H H the Prince of Berar's HIKMAT PASHA 8-11 V Jadhav ... 2
The Raja of Miraj, Jnr's ANAR KALI 8-11 Chavan ... 3
H H the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior's PUSHPAMALA 8-11 Robert ... 4
Not run: Ajinkya Tara, Dhayf Shammar, Wavell and Ubayan Faisal.
Won by: 3 lengths, 1/2 length, 1/2 length.
Time: 2 minutes 20 3/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 34. Places Rs. 17, Rs. 22 and Rs. 15.
Trainer: M C Patel.

THE ROCKHAMPTON PLATE. Division I.—Distance 1 mile.
Mrs. Marbeth's WINLAD 8-0 Sibbritt ... 1
Messrs. E D Pandole, G A Jasdanwalla and Moosa M Hoosein's MISTY ISLAND 7-11 Raffaele ... 2
H H the Maharani Regent of Kolhapur's DABBS 9-0 Chavan ... 3
H H the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda's MORNAS 8-11 Britt ... 4
Not run: Sunny Dan, Expunge and Alarm.
Won by: Neck, 1 1/4 lengths, 1/2 length.
Time: 1 minute 40 4/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 68. Places Rs. 18, Rs. 14 and Rs. 28.
Trainer: B. Dinshaw.

MADRAS CRICKET

Annual Match Between Indians And Europeans Commences

MADRAS, Dec. 26.

The annual cricket match between Europeans and Indians commenced to-day. Ideal weather prevailed. Indians, batting first, made 268 in the first innings (Gopalan 87, Swaminathan 56, Ramsingh 54). Europeans at close of day, had made 155 for one wicket (Johnstone, not out, 75).

CYCLONE RELIEF

The Ramakrishna Mission is carrying on relief work in about 250 villages of the Midnapore, 24-Parganas and Balasore Districts through 9 centres. From the 4th November, to the 7th December, altogether 5,885 mds 19 1/2 srs., of corn (including dal and salt), 4,041 pieces of cloth, 4,090 blankets and 1,170 mats have been distributed in the three Districts to relieve 39,755 recipients.

The total receipts at Balurmath upto the 10th December are Rs. 1,46,465, and our total disbursements about Rs. 70,000. We have also received articles worth Rs. 67,000 approximately. Our weekly expenditure is roughly Rs. 25,000.

The total receipts at Ramakrishna Ashram, Khar, Bombay, uptil 20th December are Rs. 39,765-9-6.

Any contribution in cash or kind (particularly new cloth) will be most thankfully acknowledged by (1) The President, Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Khar, Bombay 21; (2) The Treasurer, Mr. F. J. Ginwala, Solicitor, 107, Esplanade Road, Bombay; (3) The Secretary, Mr. D. M. Daru, Solicitor, Ali Chambers, Modi Street, Fort, Bombay; (4) The Manager, The Comilla Banking Corporation, Amar Building, Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay, or (5) The Manager, Calcutta National Bank, Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay

18 Months' R. I. For Taking Part In Procession!

DACCA, Dec. 25.

Five youths have been arrested under the Telegraph Act and remanded to custody in connection with cutting of wires.

For taking part in an unauthorised procession and for doing a prejudicial act, Mr. Niranjan Ghosh and Mr Balaram Sarker have been sentenced to 18 months' rigorous imprisonment each under Rules 56 and 38 of the Defence of India Rules by Mr. H. C. Barori, Special Magistrate, yesterday.

Mr. Balaram Sarker is already undergoing six months' rigorous imprisonment in another case. Mr. Niranjan Ghosh in another case was awarded by the same Magistrate yesterday one year's rigorous imprisonment more under Rule 38 of the Defence of India Rules for having pasted a prejudicial leaflet on the wall of a shop. One other accused in the latter case is absconding.—A. P.

MIRAJ Dec. 26: Jowar is no longer available in the State. The people are now purchasing 'Bajari' instead of jowar.—United Press.

"Finalist" Wins Viceroy's Cup

CALCUTTA, Dec. 26.

Amidst loud cheers the Maharaja of Gwalior's Finalist won the Viceroy's Cup from the favourite Wansfell by the shortest of margin. Jones rode the champion with exceptional judgment.

Newdigate won the Grand Annual and the newly promoted Counterscarp made hacks of his companions in the Anderson Plate. The rest of the races were won respectively by Dourak, Tantalides, Nephele, English Weather and Draycott.—A. P.

CEYLON DEMANDS FREEDOM

Dominion Status Is A Meaningless Term

COLOMBO, Dec. 21.

The Ceylon National Congress at its 23rd annual session held at Peliyagoda, Kelaniya, yesterday decided by a big majority to adopt the attainment of "Freedom" for Ceylon as its object instead of "Dominion Status within the Statute of Westminster."

For this purpose a change was made in the Congress Constitution.

Mr. J. R. Jayawardenen, who moved the resolution, submitted that while the world "dominion" might be applied to countries outside Britain peopled by British emigrants, it had no meaning in regard to countries like India and Ceylon which had a civilisation of their own.

The resolutions carried, only four voting against.

Mr. Dudley Senanayake proposed the next resolution, calling upon the United Nations to make forthwith a declaration guaranteeing to Ceylon freedom immediately after the war.

Mr. C. P. G. Abeywardene seconded.

The resolution was carried.—A.P

MURDER CASE ACCUSED ACQUITTED

CHAPRA, (Bihar) Dec. 25.

The Special Judge of Saran has acquitted the twelve accused who were being tried before him in connection with the murder of five soldiers and an Anglo-Indian. Mr. R. Francis, who, it is alleged, had gone to disperse a meeting of Congressmen on the 18th August last which contemplated to loot an engineering works.

The police had charged-sheeted 31 persons, out of whom sixteen were arrested and the rest are still absconding. Four of them were discharged as there was no evidence to frame charges against them. Charges were framed against the remaining twelve.

In the course of his judgment, the Judge observed :—

"The Inspector discovered some clothes said to have been of the soldiers lying here and there in the maize field in the neighbourhood, such as helmet, two half pants and underwear, a pair of stockings and a patti. The prosecution appears to allege that these are the clothes of the murdered men, suggesting that the murdered men were probably stripped of their clothings. No evidence regarding the ownership of these clothes has been led. It may be that these are the clothes of men who are alleged to have been murdered there, but it is somewhat surprising that none of these clothes bore any mark of blood.

"If the soldiers, as is the prosecution case, were murdered there, by means of such deadly weapons as "bhallas" "grasas" and the like and if these are their clothes, it would be reasonable to expect some marks of blood on them. Having regard, therefore, to the material before me it would be impossible to give a finding as to the exact place of the alleged murder of the troops, and as no witness came forward as having witnessed the murder, it would be equally impossible to hold definitely that the accused of this case had participated in any such murder. Owing to such evidence being unavailable, this unfortunate incident must remain shrouded in mystery."

The trial, which was held inside the local jail, continued for 16 days and 32 prosecution witnesses were examined.—A.P.

Wheat Supply In Bombay

With a view to conserving all available stocks of wheat and wheat products in Bombay City and Suburbs for the ordinary needs of the public, the Government of Bombay has issued orders banning the use of wheat flour or any other wheat product for preparing cakes, pastry or sweetmeats.

END OF BEGINNING IN S.-E. ASIA

December, 25.

TO borrow a phrase which has already become trite, last week's happenings on the north-east border of India mark the end of the beginning for the Japs in south-east Asia.

True, the Anglo-American bombing attacks upon Burma have recently grown in frequency and volume and the Japs, too, had occasionally replied in kind upon Chittagong and a few other areas in Assam.

But the tide of Jap victories which began over a year ago and reached its high-water-mark last May had not ended, at any rate in our part of the world. The Japs seemed poised for an offensive against India immediately after the monsoon rains were over and their continued inactivity for the last two and a half months has thus been, to say the least, full of uneasy surprise.

Meanwhile General Wavell and other Allied spokesmen have been repeatedly hinting at a projected offensive into Burma. That operation, too, has been impending ever since the cessation of the monsoon but somehow it never materialised so far. So when news came through last Saturday that British and Indian troops had advanced from the Arakan border into western Burma and occupied the Maungdaw-Buthidaung area and that, too, without even a show of resistance on the part of the enemy, our hopes rose high. The Allied forces had at long last anticipated the Japs; it was the end of the beginning; in fact the evacuation of the advance bases by the enemy might even indicate the beginning of the end for him —so we thought!

Sharp Reminder

Future developments may yet justify those expectations. But for the time being a damper has been thrown on public enthusiasm by the official announcement that the Arakan advance is essentially of a limited, local nature and that it by no means heralds that opening of the big-scale offensive, which everybody has been expecting all these days. How very wet this damper is likely to prove not only in this country but also in China can be seen from the first excited comments from Chungking. Subsequent warnings from London and Washington have further chilled the initial enthusiasm in China while for India the continued bombing of Calcutta on four out of the last five nights has come as a sharp reminder that even a limited advance in Burma, which can by no means be taken to be the prelude to a regular offensive, entails the price of blood and tears, toil and sweat.

Whether the bombing of Calcutta is construed only as a feeble retaliatory measure and thus purely of nuisance value or whether it proves the curtain-raiser of a full-fledged Blitz, it has at any rate suddenly and completely dispelled the complacency which had begun to gather in this country as a result of our continued immunity from air raids. It is, indeed, a great riddle, a riddle which will not be solved before the end of the war, why the Japs have so long remained quiescent on the Indo-Burma border. There was everything to encourage them in making the first move instead of awaiting General Wavell's strategy. The sands of time have been running out for them.

Slow But Steady

Now even if they have begun to bomb the capital of Bengal in right earnest, they will find that the defences of India are far stronger than they were six or even three months ago, that the internal situation in India has considerably settled down since last August and that as a result of all this, civilian morale is much better than could have been hoped for not long ago. In spite of other numerous pressing calls upon them, the Allies have been building up a huge striking force on the frontier of India. Especially the growth of the U. S. Army Air Force in this country during the last eight months has been nothing short of phenomenal. No wonder then, that the initiative has passed into Allied hands and that General Wavell has felt strong enough to order at least a local advance towards Akyab last week.

In his Christmas broadcast Lt.-General Irwin, Commander of the Eastern Army, stressed the fact that the advance in Burma is slow but steady and that the Allied troops have reoccupied another district. How long the Japs would allow themselves to be squeezed out in this manner and when exactly fighting may flare up remains to be seen. The theory is mooted that the Jap garrison is too weak in that part of Burma and that, therefore, the Allies would be allowed to run over the whole border area up to Akyab without any severe resistance from the Japs. On the other hand there are reports that during the last one or two months heavy reinforcements have reached the occupying army in Burma in men, material and particularly in planes and pilots. It seems too optimistic to believe, therefore, that Akyab will fall without any opposition.

Royal Navy's Challenge

To my mind, however, the most surprising—and promising—thing during the last week is neither the British advance in Burma nor the Jap bombing of Calcutta. If the former has been hoped for many weeks now, the latter has been anticipated for as many months. The really unexpected event of the last week is the heavy air attack carried at Sabang, the port in a small island at the northern tip of Sumatra. This attack was obviously made from an aircraft-carrier, which means that a considerable task force of the British navy is operating in those waters.

This is a very healthy indication indeed, for it means that the British fleet in the Indian Ocean, which was crippled by the sinking of the "Prince of Wales" and her sister battleship and by the subsequent unrelieved disasters, has now reacquired some of its former strength. Nothing made the Jap victory in south-east Asia easier and nothing dealt a heavier blow to Allied might as well as prestige in the Far East, than the supremacy wrested by the Jap navy in the very first month of the war.

The attack on Sabang is the first challenge thrown to the Japs by the Royal Navy. The fact that no damage whatever was suffered by the attacking planes is significant in this connection. The operation can also be viewed as a subsidiary movement to the advance in Burma. If General Wavell has really planned a big offensive it is essential that the Japs are denied reinforcements through the Bay of Bengal. Sabang is considered the likely port of supply for the Jap army in Burma and, the early attention it received was thus very well deserved.

Darlan's Death

Sabang marks the end of the beginning of Jap naval supremacy in the Indian ocean as the advance in Arakan marks the end of the beginning of the Jap initiative in East Asia. Both of them along with the bombing of Calcutta mark the end of the lull and of the beginning of the rising curve of the Jap victories which was stabilised at the crest for the last six months. There is good ground to hope that developments during the next few weeks will also mark the beginning of the end of Japan. But following the good example of Mr. Churchill, let us for the time being be restrained and sober in our outlook and prepare ourselves for the ensuing return blows rather than for the ultimate laurels. After all the Japs are proving what a terribly tough proposition they are in their fox-holes at Buna. They will need a lot of pulling out from their many illgotten territories in the Indian and Pacific oceans.

★

The death of Admiral Darlan at the hands of an assassin is one of those tragic events in history about which we will always have a divided mind. True the Admiral was a traitor and a turncoat and he has thus received poetic justice from one point of view. No tears need be shed over his grave by the freedom-loving, straight-going people all over the world. At the same time it cannot be denied that Darlan after his phase of collaboration with the Fascists, came over to the Allies as a veritable "deus ex machina" and that without his active help affairs in North Africa would have taken a different complexion altogether.

Who Is He?

The disastrous reverse suffered by the Free French in Dakar two years ago shows what difficulties the Anglo-American Expeditionary Force would have been confronted with in French North Africa had Admiral Darlan not made the path smooth for it. Ever since then he has been proving himself of invaluable help to General Eisenhower and it is literally true to say that his loss cannot be made good. Fortunately for the Allies they are by now firmly in the saddle both in North and West French Africa and even if the situation remains fluid and unsettled for some days now, it need not go out of control.

Paradoxically enough not the character of the victim but that of his assassin will have the preponderating reaction upon the situation. So far his identity is unknown. If he is a stooge of the Axis or a tool of Laval the tragedy will have a healthy, unifying effect upon both the camps of Frenchmen outside France. There is every possibility of the two soldiers, de Gaulle and Giraud, shaking hands over the grave of Darlan. But supposing it is the work of a misguided youth in the Free French camp, the schism is bound to widen and aggravate by this senseless act. Let us, therefore, defer judgment until further information is available.

Tripoli Or Tunisia?

One's only hope is that Darlan's death does not anyway hinder the plans of Generals Eisenhower and Anderson. The reports of the last two days indicate that their forces are poised for a decisive drive against Tunis and Bizerta, only the rains compelling them to postpone the attack until the ground is dried up. At the other end, General Montgomery is hot on the heels of Rommel, though the latter has succeeded in extricating his forces from the outflanking net thrown by the former. Whether the Africa Korps has decided to make a firm stand at Misurata or whether its orders are to join hands with General Nehring's forces in Tunisia is not clear.

The haste with which Rommel is running and the speed and punch which Montgomery is throwing in the pursuit suggest the latter possibility though Tripoli is to precious a possession be written off in such a cursory, craven manner. And the question immediately arises; are the French troops under General Giraud strong enough to prevent the junction of the two forces? It will prove obviously easier to dispatch them piecemeal and the prestige of Mussolini which may urge him to fight for the last remnant of his much-vaunted African Empire, may thus prove actually helpful to Allied strategy.

Soviet offensives of various categories and calibres and on various sectors seem to be coming faster and thicker than the snowfall in a Russian winter the latest one being reported in northern Caucasus. Frankly it is difficult to follow them or even to keep pace with them. Nor need one care as long as the Russians are on top and are knocking hell out of the Nazis!

The amazing resilience, resources and resolution of the Red Army almost stun one's critical faculties. One at times feels like only raising a paean of glory to its achievements rather than commenting upon them.

A WEEK OF WAR

By
N. G. JOG

"STAR OF CHRISTMAS SHINES BRIGHTLY IN WORLD BLACK WITH FEAR AND HATE"

U. S. War Department Presents Globe To Churchill

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.

President Roosevelt has sent the following message to American men and women of the armed forces in Britain: "Happily the star of Christmas again shines brightly in the world black with fear and hate. Never has mankind yearned more for what the star signifies—for peace and honour to men of good-will the way we must travel is yet long.

HAPPIER XMAS THAN LAST

President Roosevelt in a Christmas message to the nation on Thursday night declared that this is a happier Christmas than last year in the sense that the forces of darkness "stand against us with less confidence in the success of their evil ways."

The President sent his greetings not only to American armed forces but also to the armed forces and merchant sailors of the all United Nations. He also spoke to those guarding remote islands and bases reassuring them that their work is essential to the conduct of war and ultimate victory

CHURCHILL GETS GLOBE

The Deputy Commander of the United States forces in the United Kingdom, Major-General Russel P. Hartle called upon Mr. Churchill at 10 Downing Street on Thursday to present a globe the gift of the United States War Department.

It is one of two specially made globes, the other being presented to President Roosevelt. It was flown from the United States in an American aircraft.

General Hartle was accompanied by Brigadier-General Everett Hughes, Colonel Sumner Waite, Major Kraschel, Major Walker and Captain Davenport.

KING'S MESSAGE

The King has sent a Christmas message to officers and men of the British merchant navy and fishing fleets in which he says: "There is not one of us on shore who does not know the extent to which the safety of our common heritage of hearth and home depends on you."

"Sadhu" Who Carried A Pistol

NOWGONG (Assam), Dec. 25.

During the earlier part of this month some thirteen guns from different parts of the district have been reported to be stolen. One clerk in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong also similarly lost his gun. No trace has been found of the stolen guns so far.

A country made pistol has been recovered from the possession of a man who was passing as a "sadhu" and was travelling by the Silghat-Chamarmukh Railway. His belongings were searched at the Nowgong railway station by an excise party on suspicion to find out smuggled opium and in the course of the search the pistol was discovered inside a pillow in his possession.—A. P.

Nations and fight the Axis at all cost. It was because they had not got their freedom and independence, they said, that they could not join the war.

We may not believe in anybody else but we must believe in the sincerity, the honesty, the truthfulness and the sublime personality of Mahatma Gandhi. We may not trust other people but we must have trust in the zeal, the eagerness, the great effort and enthusiasm of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to fight against the Italian Fascists, the German Nazis and the Japanese Militarists.

As a matter of fact, the Indians also cannot make peace with the Japanese or oppose the war even if they liked to do so. For the power is still in your hands and the United Nations troops are here. But if they cannot get their independence and freedom, they may be deadly disappointed and may despair. Great disappointment and despair may compel them to do anything and everything to harm not only the British authorities but also the common cause of the United Nations.

World Will Bow To Britain If .....

Again, you need also not fear that when India becomes independent and free you will lose your relationship with and your advantage, profit and benefit in this country. It will again be just the contrary. You will not only not lose all these things but will gain more and more. The truth is that human feelings are reciprocal and mutual, and the natural law is relative and respondent. When there is a sound, there must be an echo; when there is an action, there must be a reaction; when there is a movement, there must be a response, and when there is a cause, there must be an effect.

So far as I know, most of your intellectuals and scholars do not read much of other Chinese philosophers but like to read Lao-Tzu. If you statesmen also read Lao-Tzu, you will understand all things I said above. It is a very small book, only about five thousand words in Chinese and there are several English translations. So you can read it very easily. Lao-Tzu told us: "The more you do for others, the more you will have, the more you give to others the more you will gain." He said again: "If you want to gain it, you must give it first." Again he said: "If you want to hold it you will lose it." The Indian people is a very philosophical and sensible, hospitable and benevolent, friendly and thankful people. If you give them freedom and independence, they will surely ever reciprocate your kindness, your goodness, and your greatness. The relationship and friendship between you and the Indian people will be ever increasing. So also will be your benefit, your advantage and your profit.

Then no Hitler or Mussolini or the Japanese can break the concrete link between your two great nations. Nor can they interfere with your benefit, advantage, and profit in India. But it will be better for you not to think of those old terms, Dominion, Autonomy and Self-Government. Let India be completely independent and free and make her your equal and true ally. After this war, there must be a great Union of all the United Nations; there should be no Empire either like the old German, Italian and Japanese or like the French, the Dutch or your own Empires. It will be very good for you to take the lead and start this movement now in India. If you can take the lead and start this movement just now in India, you will surely be crowned with success. And the whole world will really bow down to you.

Moreover, you have declared again and again that you and the United Nations are fighting this war for freedom, for peace, for justice, for democracy and so on.

How can we deny the very freedom to India whose population consists of one-fifth of that of the whole world?

If such a great number as the Indians are do not join us or unfortunately side with the Axis, how can we be sure to win the war? Even if we can win the war without setting India independent and free, what will be the significance of the war? To fight to win the war or to defeat the Axis is not enough for us. We must fight and destroy the very cause of war. Hitler might have thought if the British could dominate such a large country as India in Asia, why we Germans would not dominate such small countries as Austria, Czecho-Slovakia, Poland, etc., in Europe? Therefore, Hitler said at the very beginning of the war: "If Mr. Churchill can set India free, I shall kneel down before him." The Japanese might think that if Great Britain could rule such a great nation as India from so far away, why would not the Japanese conquer China and thereafter the whole of Asia from so near-by? So the late Tanaka made his world-famous "Memorial." Of course the real cause of the war is not merely due to your domination of India.

But by setting India free and independent, you will break the excuse and pretext of the Axis for their aggression and thereby remove one of the causes of war. At least you will show a noble example to them and relieve your responsibility for causing further wars.

Until the cause of war be removed, there will be no peace, no freedom, no justice or the like even after this war. Therefore, I most earnestly and humbly appeal and pray to you far-sighted British statesmen, for everybody's sake and for many reasons, to declare India independent and free, and to form an Indian National Government enabling the Indian people to join the war totally and whole-heartedly to finish the Axis as soon as possible.

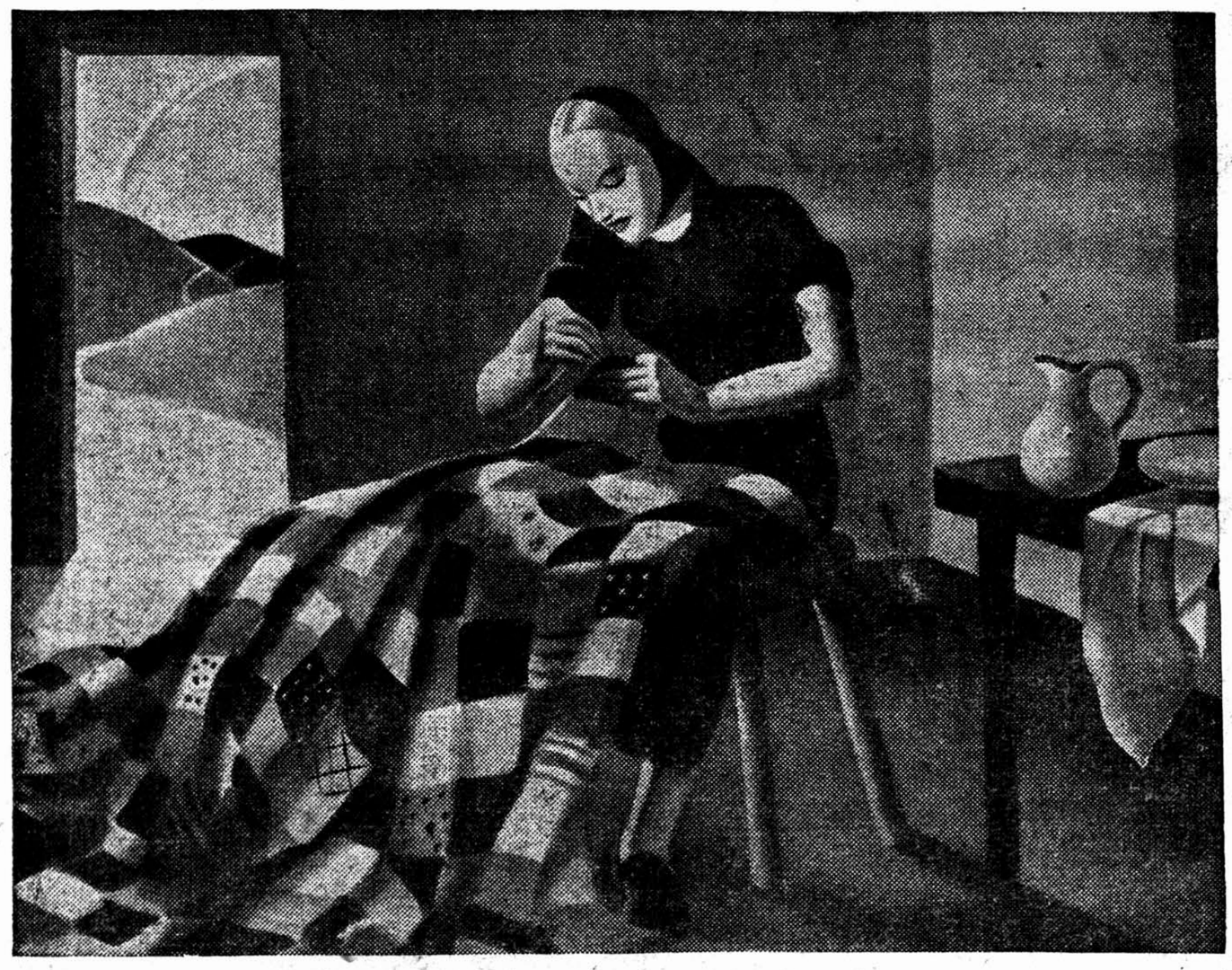
The above appeal to both, my dear and respected Indian brethren and our great and honourable ally, the British authorities, comes from the depth of my heart. It is from my conscience that I appeal to your conscience. As an admirer and lover of you both, my words are very frank and simple. I hope both of you will not misunderstand me. Anyhow, I must wish you both well and pray for peace and an earliest settlement between you both!

—("Modern Review.")

Chinese Scholar Appeals For India's Freedom

(Continued from Page 5)

Aspects of an Industry No. 1



ALL THE COLOURS OF THE RAINBOW

A *PHRASE* used every day. Yet if you study the rainbow, you will find in it only seven colours, the colours of the spectrum — violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange and red. The British dyestuffs chemist provides a far greater number. Colour, in the form of dyestuffs, enters into almost everything we wear, use or even eat in the course of our daily lives. The dyestuffs industry — purely British in origin, since it owes its birth to the discoveries of W. H. Perkin and A. G. Green between 1856 and 1897 — to-day produces an enormous range of colours. By judicious blending the modern dyer multiplies these a thousandfold. This astonishing array of colours is necessary because fashion demands an infinite variety of shades, and each class of material its peculiar type of dyestuff. To-day the British dyestuffs industry is the most modern and up-to-date in the world. Its swiftest and most spectacular development took place between 1919 and 1939. During this period a high percentage of the major discoveries in dyestuffs were made by British chemists. Chief among these successes are Caledon Jade Green, a vat dyestuff of excellent fastness; Monastral Fast Blue, the first new blue pigment to be developed for 100 years; the Duranol and Dispersol dyestuffs, developed specially for the dyeing of acetate rayon; and the Solacet range. In peacetime the British dyestuffs industry employed as many as 130 full-time research chemists. Since the War, it has been working flat-out to meet expanding demand at home and abroad. To-day, it is being rapidly and greatly developed so as to be able to supply the peculiar needs of dyers and finishers all over the world.

ICI

Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Ltd.

ART NOTES AND COMMENTS

BY D. G. VYAS

ART OFF THE STAGE

CLASSICAL MUSIC LOSING GROUND—THE REMEDY IS STATE PATRONAGE—RADIO, TALKIE AND VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT — SIDELIGHTS ON POST-WAR ORDER—MANUFACTURE OF RADIO-SETS NOT DISCUSSED—WANTED ABROGATION OF THE ENTERTAINMENT TAX.

In the Convocation address to the Andhra University on December, 12 Her Highness the Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi of Travancore deprecated a glaring anomaly in the existing social order in India in these words:—"An employee in a Government office or a member of one of the professional classes is regarded with a special respect whereas a great musician, a fine sculptor or a skilled artisan is treated with much less regard." And Her Highness the Maharani has not overdrawn the picture. Art has dropped down from the pedestal on which it ought to perch, because the artist is dislodged from his legitimate rank in society. Since the professional musician has been a victim of unmitigated social injustice, even music—the most popular of the fine arts—is threatened with an unprecedented crisis.

Recalls Akbar

"Music is a great unifying force, music is a national heritage of India," these are at present, the rhetorician's plausible platitudes, they are merely slogans. Music is neither seriously exploited as the former nor is scrupulously cherished as the latter. It was Emperor Akbar who had realised the intrinsic worth and beauty of Indian music, had brought the Hindus and Moslems on its altar and had taught them to prize it as their national heritage. Conversely speaking, he had made art—particularly music a symbol of communal unity and cultural synthesis.

Akbar had, with his keen interest in music, illustrated the attitude which the conqueror should adopt towards the art of the conquered. While speaking at the celebration of the Akbar Quater-Centenary in London Mr. L. S. Amery, the Secretary of State for India, harped upon the familiar tune when he said, "if in modern terms and on modern lines leaders of political India could dedicate themselves to the same breath of vision and comprehending charity shown by Akbar, then, indeed, India's future would be assured." But Mr. Amery needs to be told that he and the Government of India have yet to emulate Akbar for his patronage to Indian music.

Bombay Scotsmen will be jubilant over the appointment of Lieut-Colonel John Colville as the Governor of Bombay for his proficiency in playing the bagpipes—their national musical instrument. Quebee will found an Insituate of Music and Dramatic art about which a bill was presented to its Legislative Assembly in May. But India is not Quebee. India has to recall the times of Akbar—the times of kingly patronage which her music had enjoyed, and Bombay has recently done so. Music was one of the items on the art-programme of the Akbar Quater-Centenary Celebration Committee in Bombay. The Committee had organised two concerts of classical music and dance and had laid stress on the term "classical," because unclassical stuff is, these days, available unsolicited and in abundant quantity.

Beauty Of Classical Music

The high standards of music and dance—an outstanding feature of the concerts—were fixed and were maintained throughout. The atmosphere of the Sunderbai Hall was pervaded with the serenity of "art" and not with the stillness of "Fun and Frolic" which are maqurading as art on the stage of Bombay. The Committee had, thus, harnessed music to the purpose of paying homage to the music-loving Monarch and reinstalled the accredited exponents of music on the stage which is usurped and is being swamped by the half-baked amateur, adventurers and even imposters.

The committee was fortunate in securing the co-operation of the musicians like Ustad Faiyazkhan, Roshanara Begum, Ustad Vilayat Hussein Khan, Shri Kumar Gandharva, Shri Kamurao Mangeshkar, Ustad Khadim Hussein Khan and Shri Achchhan Maharaj—the well-known exponent of the Kathak technique of Indian dancing and his pupil Miss Yashodhara Katju. The music score was rich and varied. It demonstrated the beauty of graces, the delightful process of the elaboration of the melodic pattern and the variegated musical phrases which spring from the elastic and expansile voice that is indispensable to systematic singing. And it stressed firmness, facileness, delicacy and gentleness as the necessary qualities of singing—the qualities which can be cultivated by sustained and sincere but not amateurish efforts.

Everything But Art

A propos of the Akbar Quater Centenary Celebration, Bombay ought to take stock of the position that it has assigned to the classical music. At present those, whose ears are regularly attuned to flat singing, are generally repelled by the complex technique of the classical vocal music; and they form the vast bulk of the audiences. They have ordered the professionals to retire, without pension, from the stage and have almost replaced the public concerts of classical music with the variety entertainments. The amateurs have ousted the adepts. Artificiality has triumphed over art.

The music score of the variety entertainments generally consists of the sophisticated modes rendered in flat singing by "Society" amateurs and the popular film-songs presented by some film-stars whose "personal appearance on the stage" is advertised in bold letters. The variety entertainments have, by setting up amateurish standards, applied a brake over the progress of classical music and dance and have perverted the tasti of the audiences by providing to them faked and frivolous material as a means of entertainment.

What one frequently misses in the blatant display of make-up costumes and settings and in the programmes of "fun and frolic" glittering with western polish is art, genuine and creative. The accredited musicians are pronounced as misfits and are, therefore, found to be conspicuous omissions in the variety entertainments. Is it not curious that the elite and elegant who can spend hours at a stretch in witnessing races and pentangular matches cannot spare time to hear music of the higher order?

Radio And Talkie

Since their summary dismissal from the stage by the organisers and patrons of the variety entertainments the musicians are allowed to appear once in a way in the studio of the All-India Radio or are accommodated within the four walls of the music-circle. Now steps in the radio. The All-India Radio deserves the credit of making music more popular and bringing to light some hidden talents, but it cannot escape the reproach of rendering a disservice to music.

Between "standardisation" of music with respect to time and the higher standards of the art the All-India Radio has selected the former and is uncompromising in its attitude. The vocalist has to close down before he gets into the rut. He, thus, produces an unadorned melodic pattern and withholds an important aspect of the beauty of singing. He has to measure strength with his pupils and amateurs on the basis of a fixed scale of fees and is frequently defeated by his unworthy competitors. Popularisation of the classical music, which the All-India Radio claims as one of its aims, demands that the authorities should give reasonable time to the front-rank musicians and should pay the fees to them on the basis of their merits.

The world of the screen has created a new order of music known as "film-music" and is not an institution exclusively reserved for classical music. The producers should realise the necessity of fixing the standards higher than the current pot-pourri and of rendering the talkie a vehicle of classical music, but their vested interests make it imperative to cater for the popular taste and not to champion the cause of art. The classical music is sinking low, day by day, in the triangular arena of the radio, talkie and variety entertainment. Art admits no compromise or concession. Classical music in its complex technique should be the aim of every individual and institution.

Houses For Heroes

That the "post-war" housing is a problem not so much of pulling down slums as of building new homes that the ordinary man, his wife and children would like to live in", was declared by Sir Stafford Cripps in his recent speech in London. The amenities of new houses and the right to every citizen, in the post-war order, "to a standard of decency, health, cleanliness and even conveniences" are evidently advocated by Sir Stafford for the people of England and not of India, because an amendment in the House of Commons to His Majesty the King's speech, which was moved on December 3 by the Independent Labour Party regretting that it made no promise of legislation to remove grave social inequalities and offered no prospects of a new order for the common people in Britain, in India and in the Colonies, was lost by an overwhelming majority.

What part art will play in shaping the new houses—"houses fit for heroes" in the words of Sir Stafford Cripps—was elucidated by Mr. Percy Smith, R.D.I., in his paper entitled "The Contribution of the "Fine Arts", read by him before the Royal Society of Arts in March in the series of twelve papers on "The Post-war Home". Mr. Smith had indicated the contribution that fine arts can make to the new houses and had invited the architect to aim at "those most precious gifts of art, order repose, serenity". The artist in England will probably get a chance of closer collaboration with the architect, but in India the latter does not and will not condescend to seek his co-operation. India may not change. In the absence of any post-war housing scheme the slums in Bombay need not apprehend the danger of clearance.

Defence Of Culture

The fact that patriotism on the part of the artist is reflected in their steadfastness in defence of art which enshrines the soul of a nation was affirmed by the message sent by the Russian writers, actors, poets, painters, sculptors, architects and musicians to their colleagues abroad for the defence of Soviet culture and the free voice of Soviet art against Nazi vandpalism. The Indian artists ought to, even in times of peace, emulate the Russian artists in their love for the indigenous art and culture.

When Russia stands for Soviet art and culture, the United Nations' war aims with respect to these two vital interests of life need clarification, because Mr. Richard Law, the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said in October in a reply to a question in the House of Commons. "I do not think the majority of those who are fighting on the side of the Allies would dissent from the proposition that they are fighting for 'Christian Civilisation"—an assertion which appears to be at variance with the pronouncement made by the Russian artists.

Since there appears to be a theoretical conflict as regards the political and religious labels to be attached to art, culture and civilisation, India and China, though fighting on the side of the anti-Fascist states, ought to safeguard the integrity of their art and culture whose individuality and antiquity is said to have been emphasised in Lin-Yu Tang's anthology. "The Wisdom of China and India" that was published early this month in New York. An announcement in the "New York Times" declared the same as "the enduring word of a civilisation whose philosophers anticipated Aristotle and Socrates and whose moral leaders taught the doctrines which were embodied in the Sermon on the Mount." India and China should defend their ancient art and culture against the cultural aggression of the west and should enable them to reassert their individuality in the post-war world.

Still Further

When the Hon. Mr. Sarkar, the Commerce Member, met the All-India Radio Merchants' Association, Bombay on December 10, the question of distribution of the 50,000 radio sets which the Government proposes to import from the United States under the Lease and Lend Agreement was discussed, but both the parties seem to have remained reticent about the question of the manufacture of cheap radio sets in India—one of the more important recommendations of the American Technical Mission—which was discussed by the General Body of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research at its meeting held in Bombay in July, under the Presidentship of Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar—the predecessor of the Hon. Mr. Sarkar. The All-India Radio Merchants' Association ought to be eager to see India a radio-manufacturing country and ought to have realised that the Government needs repeated reminders before undertaking any new project.

The exemption from the entertainment tax granted by the Government of Sind and Punjab to the popular film "Bhakta Kabir" is virtually recognition, by the two Provincial Governments, of the film as a medium of education and is a step worthy emulation by the Government of Bombay; but the Government should not consider the exemption as an obligation on or a favour to the people. The entertainment tax is a burden on the people and a toll on the head of art. It is the duty of the Government to enable the people to avail themselves of the maximum benefit of art at a minimum cost and, therefore, to abrogate the entertainment tax instead of continuing it with exceptions on the political or communal grounds.

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

I am very happy to see that many of you have re-started writing letters to me, and some of you have begun to write anew. It is always a pleasure to hear from you.

In your letters why can't you tell me something about your hobbies and activities? If your letters are interesting enough, they could as well be published. Besides, you could also send your contributions for publication: Stories, poems, games, puzzles, jokes, photographs and drawings, etc., etc.

Then remember, too, your duty to introduce your friends to this "Corner", and to Balkan-ji-Bari—The All-India Children's Association. We would wish—you, I and everyone—that our Brotherhood should grow large and large, as large as possible. What steps are you going to take?

If desired, I shall be glad to send you information about the Association and its enrolment forms. Please write for them, mentioning your age, to Dada—"Gulistan", Khar—Bombay 21.

* * *

Wanted Pen-Friends

The following sisters want girl pen-friends:—

1. Miss Kamla Sitlani (14 years), Bombay;
2. Miss Shanti Multani (13 years), Bombay;
3. Miss Dhun Contractor (14 years), Parel;
4. Miss Gool Shroff (15 years), Tardeo;
5. Miss Jini Nadirshah (16 years), Bombay;
6. Miss Tehmi Pochiwala (14 years], Gowalia Tank;
7. Miss Khorshed Contractor (17 years), Grant Road;
8. Miss Roshen Doctor (14 years), Lamington Road;
9. Miss Freni Doctor (12 years), Bombay.

They are fond of sports, modelling, music, dramatics, etc. Any girls interested in opening correspondence with them may send their letters to any one C/o. Dada—"Gulistan", Khar—Bombay 21, and they will be duly forwarded. After that you can write to each other directly.

The following brothers want boy pen-friends. Their addresses are given here, and boys interested in opening correspondence with them may write to them directly:—

1. Pramod Kalubhai Tanna (14 years), Coconut Garden, Dahanu, Dist. Thana—interested in journalism and collection of biographies;

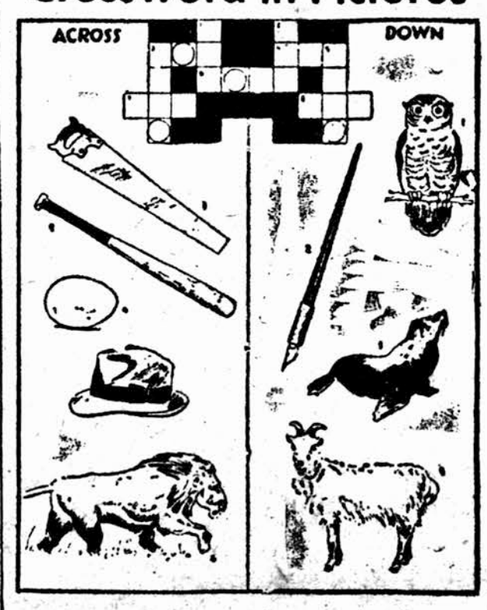
2. R. Chami (12 years), No. 4, Kusum Kunj, D. L. Vaidya Road, Dadar, Bombay 14—interested in general activities;

3. Vishin Gursahani (16 years), Willis High School Nawabshah, Sind—interested in collecting stamps and photographs.

* * *

OUR ANIMAL FRIENDS: Ship of the Desert (left), Photo—B.F.; A Captive Wild Elephant (right), Photo —N.N.

Crossword in Pictures



Here is a crossword puzzle that has pictures instead of definitions. Place the names of the pictures in the squares across and down as in a regular crossword puzzle and according to their numbers. When you have finished, then rearrange the letters in the circles to spell the name of what you find at the end of a donkey. The correct solution will appear in the next week's "Corner."

Fairy Land

By A. C. Moorjaney (16 years).

A is an archway to Fairy-Land gay,
B for butterflies showing the way,
C is the castle the queen reigns over,
D is the dew that's brought from the clover,
E the elf-pages surrounding her hall,
F for the fairies that fly to her call,
G for the garlands they weave for her hair,
H for the honey they bring to her,
I invitation she sends to a ball,
J is the joy that they give them all,
K is the kelpie who reads her with pride,
L for the lizard who offers a ride,
M is the mermaid who lives in the moat,
N is the nut-shell she has for a boat,
O is the owl keeping watch from the tower,
P for the perfume brought in by each flower,
Q is the queen who is gracious and fair,
R the respect that she gains everywhere,
S is the spider (a bit in the way!)—
T for the tunes when the band starts to play,
U for the use that is made of each chance,
V for the vigour displayed in the dance,
W for the watchman who comes with a warning,
X can not stop for the day is dawning,
Y for their yawns as they scamper from sight.
Z is the end of a beautiful sight!

* * *

SILOO

NALINI

RATAN

SHEILA

Do You Know?

By Tehmi Pothiwala (14 years)

A tree in California is 300 feet high, has a tunnel in the trunk 30 feet wide, from which four horse carriages can pass through easily.

The British Museum has a collection of writings, on Wood, Iron, Copper, Brick, Skin, Bone, Glass, Lead Tile, Shell, etc., besieds paper.

There are different vocabulary letters of the different languages as under:—English 26, French 25, Latin 24, Italian 20, Arabic 18, Persian 31, Russian 36, and Chinese 214.

All Good Wishes from
Your loving,
Dada

A Tale Of Toil And Tears

(Continued from Page 6)

invite "suggestions of all kinds of improving the transport services." Therefore, in a spirit of responsive co-operation we beg to offer him two suggestions—one for each of us.

Encourage Poets

Firstly, the transport member should encourage poets to take more kindly to railroads. If necessary even a brand-new corps of poets may be created and employed. Was it not Tennyson who confessed to have written the poem of Lady Godiva while waiting for train? And to judge by the careful construction of blank verse the train must have been as late as trains are wont to be at present.

The present railway travelling affords ideal conditions for poets with lean and hungry looks and dishevelled hair and bedraggled clothes. If only they are induced to travel more frequently and write a few poems and sing a few ballads with some such refrain as "Chins up, cheerio and carry on," they may help to induce philosophical patriotism and build up the morale of the people.

Take Gandhiji's Advice

The other suggestion, we should confess, is an old one. It is based on a suggestion made by a person to quote whom may embarrass the Transport Member. But honesty compels us to disclose the source of our inspiration. It was Mahatma Gandhi (then still Mr.) who on September 25, 1917, during an earlier war, issued a statement and made suggestions for improvement of war time transport. We are here interested in only one of them. He said: "Among the many suggestions that can be made. I would respectfully include this: let the people in high places, the Viceroy, the Commander-in-Chief, the Rajahs, Maharajas, the Imperial Councillors and others, who generally travel in superior classes, without previous warning, go through the experience now and then of third class travelling."

We know that coming from such a source Sir Edward may not like the suggestion at all. But even the devil has to be heard when he talks sense. Therefore, we would recommend to him a course of third class travelling and we can assure him, with the knowledge born of experience, that he will emerge not only a super patriot but a superb philosopher, who will no more need to disclaim ominiscie, as he has done this time.

COOL AS A MOUNTAIN BREEZE
FRAGRANT AS A VALLEY OF FLOWERS
Tata's
EAU DE COLOGNE
80°
FROM ALL GOOD CHEMISTS & STORES IN 2 oz., TO 24 oz., PHIALS

GANDHIJI FOLLOWS CHRIST

HE FOLLOWS CHRIST (Unity Series No. 2) As. 8. Edited by J. P. Gupta. Foreword by Rt. Rev. Lord Bishop of Calcutta, Metropolitan, Calcutta, and Dr. Sir S. Radhakrishnan. (Hamara Hindosthan Publications, 23, Hamam St. Bombay) Pp. 44 (with Portraits and a sketch of Gandhiji's life from his birth upto August 9, 1942).

One of the dearest books of Gandhiji is the Bible. Many Christians and non-Christians alike—in India and abroad—would like to know the thoughts of such a man on matters like tolerance, truth, love, peace, Christ in Action, non-possession, prayer, etc. that are fundamental to the Christian religion. These thoughts, expressed in the inimitable words of Gandhiji, are collected in this book which should be in the hands of every religious thinker. Besides, it contains Gandhiji's views on conversion, Christianity in the West, God and Mammon, India's Message and Gandhiji's appeal to Indian Christians.

N. H. P.

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ART OF AMRITA SHER GIL

The Punjab Literary League has paid a deserving homage to Amrita Sher Gil who was an outstanding figure in the art-world of India by devoting the September number of its journal "Usha" exclusively to her life, art and achievements.

The issue, which is divided into four parts, includes her biographical sketch, tributes paid to her, collection of the articles on her art and selection of her own articles and presents illustrations, in black and white, of the reproductions of her few paintings. Among those, who have paid tributes to her, are Mahatma Gandhi, H. E. the Viceroy, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Lady Glancy and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The high esteem in which Amrita Sher Gil was held by the art-world is reflected in the articles on her art reproduced in the journal.

Early Training In France

Amrita Sher Gil who was a highly talented artist, had received art-education mostly in Paris She was, for a short time, under Professor Pierre Vaillant at the Grande Chaumiere and then was admitted by Professor Lucien Simon to the Ecole Nationale de Beaux Arts. Her paintings were accepted for exhibition by the Grand Salon and the Salon de Tuileries and had won the admiration of the French critics and artists and had ultimately secured for her, at the age of 19 years, the distinction of Associateship to the Grand Salon. But her achievements in France had deepened her love for India and prompted her to contribute her mite to the growth of Indian art. She had held the exhibitions of her paintings at Delhi, Allahabad, Hyderabad, Bombay and Lahore. She had once participated in the Simla Fine Art Society's exhibition and was the recipient of the gold medals of the Bombay Art Society and the All-India Fine Arts and Crafts Society.

Genius Of Rare Gifts

Though Amrita Sher Gil was trained in the taditions and modern trends of art in Europe and was fully conversant with the traditions of Indian art, her art was not a servile imitation of any school. She had developed a style which was individualistic and forceful. Originality, individuality and a keen and refined colour-sense are the striking notes of her art. Her Indian paintings reflect a new and progressive outlook and a sympathetic approach to the poor and down-trodden. Amrita Sher Gil had attained eminence in her young age by virtue of the originality and maturity of her art, but the cruel destiny cut short, in her death, a brilliant career. mrita Sher Gil has left a legacy of her art which India ought to preserve in her museums.

ALL-INDIA HOME FOR URDU

"Morning News" writes:—

Lovers of the sweetest language in India and the sole claimant to be called 'lingua Indica' will rise in a body to express their sincere and respectful sentiments of gratitude to His Exalted Highness the Nizam for the grant of Rs. 40,000 per year sanctioned for the "Anjuman-e-Taraqqie Urdu", which has its headquarters in Delhi. It is in the fitness of things that the descendant of Asaf Jah, the great Viceroy of the Deccan, should be the biggest patron to-day of the language which spread from Delhi and flourished under the title of the Urdu of the Red Fort. With the great Osmania University where teaching is done through the medium of Urdu in all classes, this second great service rendered by His Exalted Highness, who is no mean poet in Urdu and has adopted the 'nom-de-plume' of "Osmania" has put the Anjuman on a permanent basis.

In extending his generosity to the Anjuman. His Exalted Highness has put his seal of approbation on the continuous and untiring work done by Mowlana Dr. Abdul Haq, D. Litt, for the expansion of Urdu and its acknowledgment as the most important and universally spoken language of the country for over forty years. Whether as Inspector of Schools in the Nizam's Dominions or as Principal of the College at Aurangabad or finally, as Professor of Urdu Language and Literature in the Osmania University with the initiation, formation and establishment of which he had been connected from the days of the late Nawab Imad-ul Mulk Sayid Husain Bilgrami, Mowlana Abdul never for one day neglected the service of Urdu. He has, perhaps, the largest collection of Urdu manuscripts in the world worth many lakhs. This he has given to the Library of the Anjuman. Since the transfer of the headquarters of the organization from Aurangabad to Delhi the Mowlana has been making efforts to obtain a piece of land in New Delhi to build a permanent home for Urdu. The Honourable Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarkar, Member for Education, was good enough to sanction the petition of the Anjuman. It is expected that the transfer will be made soon and the Anjuman will receive sufficient funds from lovers of Urdu to have a habitation of its own. At the request of Dr. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir gave a donation of Rs. 10,000. The total funds now amount to about a lakh of rupees of which nearly Rs. 60,000, a whole life's saving were given by Mowlana Abdul Haq, who has been rightly designated as 'Baba-i Urdu' by his friends and admirers.

The scheme of the building is a practical one. It will have a hall and library and rooms for its offices. There will be houses for the staff and quarters for scholars of fame who would go to Delhi to carry on research on some aspect of the language. The plans are under preparation and may be ready by the time the land has been transferred. The present is hardly the time for erecting the building. Material is unavailable and if by any chance, it is obtained the cost would be prohibitive. We may however, look forward to a start as soon as these difficulties have disappeared. In the meantime we hope that Hindu and Muslim speakers and lovers of Urdu will enable the Mowlana to collect enough funds to have this dream of his realised in his life-time. The amount required will be Rs. 3 lakhs, of which one has been collected. The rest should not be difficult to collect and we feel certain it shall be collected.

BOOKS AND THEIR AUTHORS

WHERE TO GET BOOKS ON CHINA

Since the publication of our selected bibliography on China a few weeks ago, we have received many letters asking whether copies of the books listed there can be bought in India. Unfortunately, most of the books listed are not obtainable but some of them especially those published in recent months under the auspices of this office may be bought at reasonable prices from the leading book shops in various cities in India.

To reduce unnecessary correspondence we wish to inform our readers that the following publications may be bought from the book shops listed below:

Dr Sun Yat Sen's "International Development of China" at Rs. 4|- per copy; Dr. Sun Yat Sen's "Three Principles of the People" at Rs. 4|8|-; Map of the China War Front at Re. 1|- per copy· Thacker Spink & Co., Ltd., 3 Esplanade East, Calcutta; Oxford Stationery Co., Park Street, Calcutta; G. A. Natesan & Co., George Town, Madras; Thacker & Co., Ltd., P.O. Box 198, Bombay; New Book Co., 188 Hornby Road, Bombay; Taraporewala Sons & Co., 210 Hornby Road, Bombay.

Dr. Sun's "Thee Principles of the People" at Rs. 4|8|- per copy and Map of the China War Front at Re. 1|-; Higginbothams, Mount Road, Madras; Oxford Stationery Co., Connaught Circus, New Delhi; U. N. Dhur & Co., 15 College Square, Calcutta; Socialist Literature Co., Agra; W. Newman & Co, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.

"China After Five Years of War (Bengali edition) at Re. 1|- per copy (Hindi edition at Re. 1|-): U. N. Dhur & Co., College Square, Calcutta; The Book Co., 4|3B. College Sq. Calcutta. Bengal Stores Ltd., 8A Chowringhee Place; National Book Agency 72 Harrison Road, Calcutta; Indian Hotels Ltd., Bombay; M. C. Sarkar & Sons, 14 College Sq. Calcutta; Socialist Literature Co., Chinese Museum, Bombay; Popular Book Depot, Bombay; International Bookshop, Poona.

"Wartime China As Seen by Westerners" at Rs. 7|8 per copy: W. Newman & Co., Calcutta, Chinese Museum, Bombay, International Bookshop, Poona.

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The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

Fourteen Days!

A thousand miles to the north, a thousand miles back. Crowded trains, draughty trains 'breath-conditioned' suffocating trains, blacked-out trains groping their way in the dark vastnesses of India, screaming children and snoring elders, your head in another man's lap, another man's toe in your nose (and yet you manage to sleep!), trains running to regularly belated schedules, cold tea from the dining car, sand in your *puris* "Hindu *pani*", "Muslim cha", *"Muttraji ke pede lelo"*, Delhi Junction and a crowd of tommies at the Wavell Canteen!

★

Achhheeeen!

Fourteen days—days of destiny,—from the bombing of Chittagong (December 6) to the bombing of Calcutta (December 20). cold and foggy days in a wind-swept North Indian town, so cold that even the short-waves seem to freeze and the radio develops atmospherics, not unlike you yourself with your hay fever and cold and cough and sneezes. Achhhheeeeen! And squeezed in somewhere in these fourteen days the one day of an individual's destiny, the supreme crisis of a man's life when bachelor boredom is exchanged for marital monotony.

Fourteen days—days without newspapers and days without news. The island of self cut off from the mainland of humanity. One returns to one's desk as from the wilderness to discover, among other strange things that have happened in one's absence, that the office colleagues got an unexpected holiday on the 17th December when 35 daily newspapers of the Bombay Province chose to go on a one-day strike as a protest against—But, hush, the censor! Let us pretend the editors developed soft hearts and decided 'en bloc' to give the hard-worked sub-editors and reporters an extra off-day. Such things don't happen but then it is safer to believe in miracles in these days of Defence of India Rules!

Strange to go through last week's issue of the "Bombay Chronicle" Weekly—the only issue during the last 15 months without THE LAST PAGE! Strange one feels and guilty, too—and hopes one's absence was felt. But then the unkind remark, "Oh wasn't there a Last Page this Sunday?" And the airy bubble of one's vanity bursts into nothingness.

★

A Lie

No Last Page but a bumper issue all the same. Lin Yutang and Kingsley Martin, Shakespeare and Soviet Scientists, Louis Fischer and Brailsford. (Yes, Sir, we cut out the stuff from the world's best papers!) And as one samples the 'mixed grill' a little tid-bit sticks in one's throat. The best journalistic reputation for fairplay and liberalism won't wash down these words of Kingsley Martin, the veteran British journalist who edits the liberal leftwingish "New Statesman and Nation":—

"No doubt Mr. Gandhi hoped, if the British did quit India, to persuade Japan not to invade, and if this persuasion failed, to offer non-violent non-co-operative resistance. This technique, sometimes successful in appealing to the public conscience of a Western democracy, would certainly be ineffective against the Japanese army."

The words seem innocuous enough—except one: WESTERN. But the implications are mischievous in the extreme and in line with the imperialistic and racial conceptions of the Europeans, which seem to be shared even by liberal-minded persons like Mr. Kingsley Martin. These resolve round the complacent European notion that the Western peoples are more cultured, more civilised, more humane, more merciful, kinder, more chivalrous and more easily susceptible to moral considerations. That is why Mr. Martin thinks that soul force might appeal to the "conscience of a 'Western' democracy" but not to an Eastern people like the Japanese! The use of word "Western" makes it obvious that differentiation made by him is not in terms of Democracy versus Dictatorship, but West versus East.

Through the centuries of Europe's ever-expanding imperialism, this lie of West's moral superiority has been hammered into the consciousness of the world. Phrases like "Oriental torture," "Eastern autocrat," "Asiatic incompetence", "Tropic laziness," have been passed into current usage to provide a moral justification of the West's piratical inroads into the East. Lazy, cruel, incompent Eastern people can hardly complain if the efficient, humane and democratic westerners take them under their protection!

★

Chamber Of Horrors

Anyone who has even a nodding acquaintance with history will be able to see through the blatant lie. The East has nothing to teach the Western nations in the matter of unbridled autocracy, large-scale cruelty, subtle methods of torture, mass murder, and complete disregard of moral values.

Look at the record of any of the shining lights of European history and you get very little to justify the superior airs assumed by Europeans. Henry VIII, Elizabeth, Louis of France, Napolean, the Spanish Inquisition, the massacres of Protestants by Catholics and 'vice versa', the galley-slaves, the Guillotine,—need one go on with this bloody pageant? It is a record which the blood-thirstiest Eastern tyrant would have found difficult to excel?

I remember visiting the "Chamber of Horrors" in the basement of Madame Tussaud's wax-work museum in London's Baker Street. And what I saw there knocked the last illusions I had about the western civilisation of Europe. Here was the ingenuity of man employed to devise the world's subtlest instruments of torture, horror piled upon horror—thumb screws and guillotines and devil's own machines to break the body and terrify the soul of man.

★

White And Yellow Variety!

That was the past—what about the present? What is the record of Europe for the past two centuries? Innumerable wars, bloody revolutions, massacres, slave-trade, imperialism, the cutting of the thumbs of India's craftsmen, General Dyer and the Jallianwalla Bagh, gangster killings and lynchings in America; Hitler and mass murders of Jews, Socialists and Brown Shirts, the horrors of Dachau and other concentration camps; Mussolini and Vittorio gleefully bombing the dark "natives" of Abyssinia, the Nazi atrocities in occupied Europe and Russia, the sinkings of ships, the bombings of civilians, the destruction of hospitals and the desecration of churches. All the work of Westerners and certainly they did not have to learn anything from the East!

The Jap militarists, like the Nazis and the Fascists, are ruthless enemies of humanity. They don't suffer from conscientious scruples—nor do Hitler's hordes or Mussolini's minions! It is not a question of East or West; an ethical eclipse invariably sets in with the growth of the spirit of violence and conquest, whether it manifests itself in the shape o Hitler, Mussolini or Tojo.

And yet I have noticed that in officially—inspired propaganda there is relatively far more emphasis on Japanese barbarism than on German or Italian barbarism. Why? Is it because by denouncing the Japanese one not only denounces an Axis partner but also an Eastern people and helps to keep alive the false notion that, even among Fascist gangsters, the "yellow" Japs are more contemptible than the "White" Germans and Italians?

★

"Scratch An Englishman...."

Kingsley Martin's article provoked a friend to remark, "Scratch an Englishman and you find an Imperialist." And I must say it does prove how difficult it is for any one in England, however liberal-minded, to see through the mist of imperialism that envelops English life and thought. Perhaps, in spite of themselves, the best of them continue to think in terms of the "White man's burden" where issues of imperial policy are concerned.

Of course, it is no longer fashionable to call yourself an Imperialist. It requires the personality and bulldogish tenacity of a Churchill to continue talking in terms of Empire and get away with it. Others have to find more plausible methods of self-delusion to reconcile their professions of freedom with the reality of imperialism.

H. G. Wells started talking about world Federation when asked for a direct statement on the issue of Indian freedom.

Bernard Shaw prefers to keep silent over the Indian question, camouflaging the issue by a smoke-screen of Shavian wit.

Sir Stafford Cripps, the one-time friend of India and leftwing socialist, has exposed himself too thoroughly during his ill-fated mission to need further comment.

The Labourite Attlee is as determined an imperialist on the Indian question as a die-hard Tory and the Labour organ "Daily Herald" is no more a champion of Indian freedom than the conservative "Times."

Even the British Communists to-day talk of Indian freedom only in terms of anti-Fascism, hedging their support with conditions, and no longer support the cause of India's release from imperialist bondage on its own merits!

Against this revealing background Mr. Martin's article will hardly cause any surprise among those who had hitherto regarded him as a 'friend of India' and an ally of the cause of freedom.

Mr. Martin, we are still sure, is a liberal-minded honest, conscientious journalist. But he cannot help being an Englishman.

★

Ara Arrives

"The Last Page" has at last some material achievements to its credit.

Some months ago this Page introduced to the public a young proletarian artist, K. H. Ara, who earned a precarious living by working in a garage as a mechanic and spent the rest of his time painting pictures. It was a typical story of genius in the garret going unrecognised in this world of tinsel splendour. You need money to buy paint and canvas and brushes, to eat and clothe your body, to pay for postage and fees for exhibitions. But the tragedy is that if you are not well-dressed and able to move in aristocratic "art circles" you are not likely to get anyone to even look at your pictures.

And so K. H. Ara continued to work in a garage and painted pictures on walls and odd planks of wood when he had no money to buy canvas. Then he happened to meet our Art Critic, Dr. D. G. Vyas, the patron—saint of all struggling artists, who introduced him and his paintings to "the Chronicler." "The Last Page" featured the story of K. H. Ara.

To-day we are happy to receive an invitation to a one-man exhibition of K. H. Ara, to be opened by Charles R. Gerrard, Director, J. J. School of Art, on December 28 under the auspices of the Bombay Art Society. The exhibition is being held at the Bombay Art Society Salon, 6, Rampart Row, Fort, and will remain open on December 29 and 30. Entrance is free and we invite our readers to visit the exhibition and see for themselves whether "The Last Page" was justified in 'sponsoring' this young artist.

K. H. Ara, artist and modest young man, has reason to feel proud to-day. He has hit the headlines and come out of obscurity. But how many more Aras are still there in Bombay city alone, poor artists of exceptional merit, still hungering for recognition and an opportunity to bring out their work into the sunlight?

THAT LIE ABOUT THE EAST!

Leaders Without Followers

The From-the-Qutab-Minar columnist of the Delhi "National Call" has some interesting comments to make about the "Non-Party Leaders' Conference":—

"I have never been able to understand way an organization over which the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru has presided for well nigh a year and a half should be called a "Non-Party Leaders' Conference."

Once the late Lord Hardinge was asked by a guest. "Your Excellency, are you familiar with the Indian Law?"

L. H.: "Fairly".

G.: "I mean, the Hindu and the Muslim marriage laws and laws of inheritance."

L. H.: "I am no expert but still I have made a careful study of the law."

G.: "Can you tell me if according to the Muslim law it is legal for a man to marry his widow's sister?"

L. H. (after scratching his head for sometime): "I am not very sure of the law on the point, but I think I will ask Sir Ali Imam, the Law Member. He should know."

I have often wondered that just as one cannot court the younger sister of one's widow, one cannot be a leader and yet have no party. It is said of the Polish Diet that it had all speakers and no listeners, and also of the State of Palermo . . . if it was a State at any time. I don't know, whether its army had all officers and no soldiers.

"Robert Peel once compared a political party with the animal "which has neither pride of ancestry nor the hope of posterity" One could understand if the Sapru organization consisted of men who belong to no other party. That would be like assigning a neutral gender to a species of 'homo-sapiens'. The 'IT' girl is something quite different from the common 'it' in social life. But it is not a party of non-party men. It is a party of non-party leaders, a sort of assemblage of monarchs without dominions. Actually this description is as near truth as possible."

LAUGH AWAY YOUR BLUES

"The old clothes man is at the door, sir."

"What's the use, Mary. I don't suppose he's got anything to fit."

A fellow asked his boss for a rise. He told the boss that he must have one, as several other companies were after him. It wasn't until weeks later that the boss discovered that they were the gas company, the water company, and a furnishing company.

* * *

He was extremely conceited and boring.

"It's a fact", he boasted to a girl, "that people often take me for a member of the Guards."

"Really?" drawled the girl. "Fire—shin—railway—mud—or black?"

* * *

It was the weekly meeting of the coloured "Sons of I Will Arise Society." At the end of the usual business, a loud voice yelled from the back of the hall: "Mistah Chayman, Ah makes a motion dat Sam Jackson am a low-down, sneaking mistrable chicken-thief."

Down in the front a little fellow leaped to his feet.

"Who makes dat motion dat Ah'm a low-down, sneaking miserable chicken-thief?" he cried, glaring round the room.

A huge, scar-faced Negro jumped up.

"Ah makes da motion", he said, menacingly.

"Mister Chayman", said Sam, quickly, "Ah seconds dat motion."

* * *

Before the war a Scotsman travelling in Palestine learned of an addition to his family circle. The happy father immediately provided himself with some water from the Jordan to carry home for the christening, and returned to Scotland.

On the Sunday appointed for the ceremony he presented himself at the church and sought out the beadle in order to hand over the precious water. He pulled the flask from his pocket, but the beadle held up a warning hand and came nearer to whisper:—

"No the noo, sir: no the noo! Maybe after kirk's oot!"

Charlady: "I 'ear your 'usband 'as been given a title, Mum."

Her Ladyship: "That's right, Mrs. Tripp."

Charlady: "I am glad, Mum. I expect you'll find it a nice change being called a lady."

Is it true that it cost £100 to have your family tree looked up?"

"Well, not exactly. I paid £5 to have it looked up, and £95 to have it hushed up."

* * *

One of our prominent men, in an interview, was asked to give his definition of an expert.

His answer was succinct and definite: "An expert is one who can complicate simplicity."

* * *

Thomas was rather thrifty. On a visit to the United States he decided to send a telegram to his host.

On inquiring at the post office he was told the charge, but that the sender's name would be free.

"That's splendid", he replied. "I'm a Red Indian and my name is 'Cannacomethemorn Tam'."

* * *

A man was being tried for misappropriating a pig, and a conscientious witness, to whom the accused was said to have confided, was being examined.

"Can you repeat the exact words in which the prisoner confessed to taking the pig? asked counsel.

"He said, sir, he took the pig."

The judge tried to simplify the question: "Did the prisoner say, 'He took the pig', or 'I took the pig'?"

"Oh, your Honour, he said he took it. Your Honour's name wasn't even mentioned."

"Guv'nor", said the dusty traveller, "how far is it to Gloucester?"

"'Bout a mile and a half", replied the farmer.

"Can I ride with you?"

"Certainly. Climb in!"

At the end of three-quarters of an hour the traveller asked: "How far are we from Gloucester now?"

"'Bout four miles and a half."

"Great haystacks! Why didn't you tell me we were going away from Gloucester?"

"Why didn't you tell me you wanted to go there."

* * *

"And then", said the man in the witness-box, "my wife hit me with an oak leaf."

"Well, that couldn't have hurt you", remarked the magistrate.

"Oh, yes, it did, sir. It was from the centre of our dining-room table."

* * *

A bombastic man met his somewhat henpecked friend, whose badly injured face suggested a recent motoring accident.

"Good Heavens!" his friend exclaimed. "How did that happen?"

"My wife?"....!" the injured one began.

"Your wife?" was the breezy reply. "Ah, evidently you haven't acquired the secret of married bliss. I never have a row with my wife. I have no secrets from her."

"Neither have I!" the henpecked one sighed. "I only thought I had!"

MOPSY by GLADYS PARKER

She: "Did you on your voyages, Major, ever see any sharks?"

He: "Good lord yes. I played whist with dozens of 'em."

Said the cowboy: "My partner and I are taking a trip through the desert next week. He's taking along a gallon of whisky, for rattlesnake bites".

"And what are you taking?"

"Two rattlesnakes".

* * *

The new Land Girl was doing her best, but she was evidently finding everything on the farm very strange.

Having had an incubator explained to her, and been asked if she fully understood it, she put her head on one side and, with a puzzled look, replied:—

"Yes, but where does the hen sit?"

* * *

"But I thought—" began the typist, meekly.

"It's not your business to think", snapped the manager. "Just you take down what I say, word for word, and keep your own ideas to yourself".

So that afternoon the following letter was brought for him to sign:—

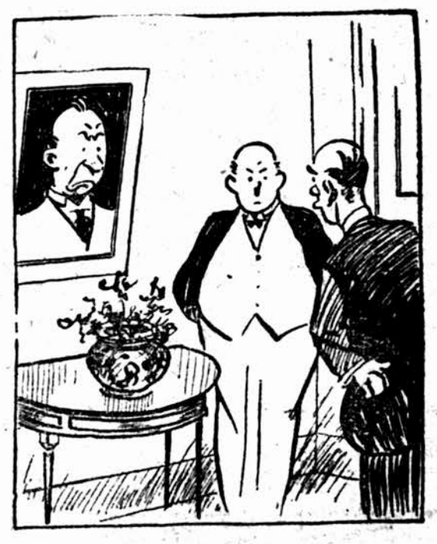
"Dear Mr. Browne,—Write it with an 'e'. Pure swank—his father was a gardener. With regard to your letter, of whatever date it was, I can quote you the following prices. Hi! Thompson! It's that outsider Browne. How much shall we stick on? Twenty per cent.! Make it thirty? Righto. Thirty bob—two pounds ten a ton. Awaiting your esteemed order, I am, yours truly. That's settled him".

* * *

Counsel addressed the man in the dock: "Did you, or did you not, on the day in question, or at any time previously, or subsequently, say, or even intimate, to the defendant or to anyone else, that the statement imputed to you, whether just or unjust, and denied by plaintiff, was a matter of no moment or otherwise? Answer me! Did you or did you not?"

The man in the dock clutched his throat.

"Did I, or did I not what?" he gasped.



"Why does he wear such a depressed look?"

"He was disappointed in love."

"Really! Jilted?"

"No, she married him."

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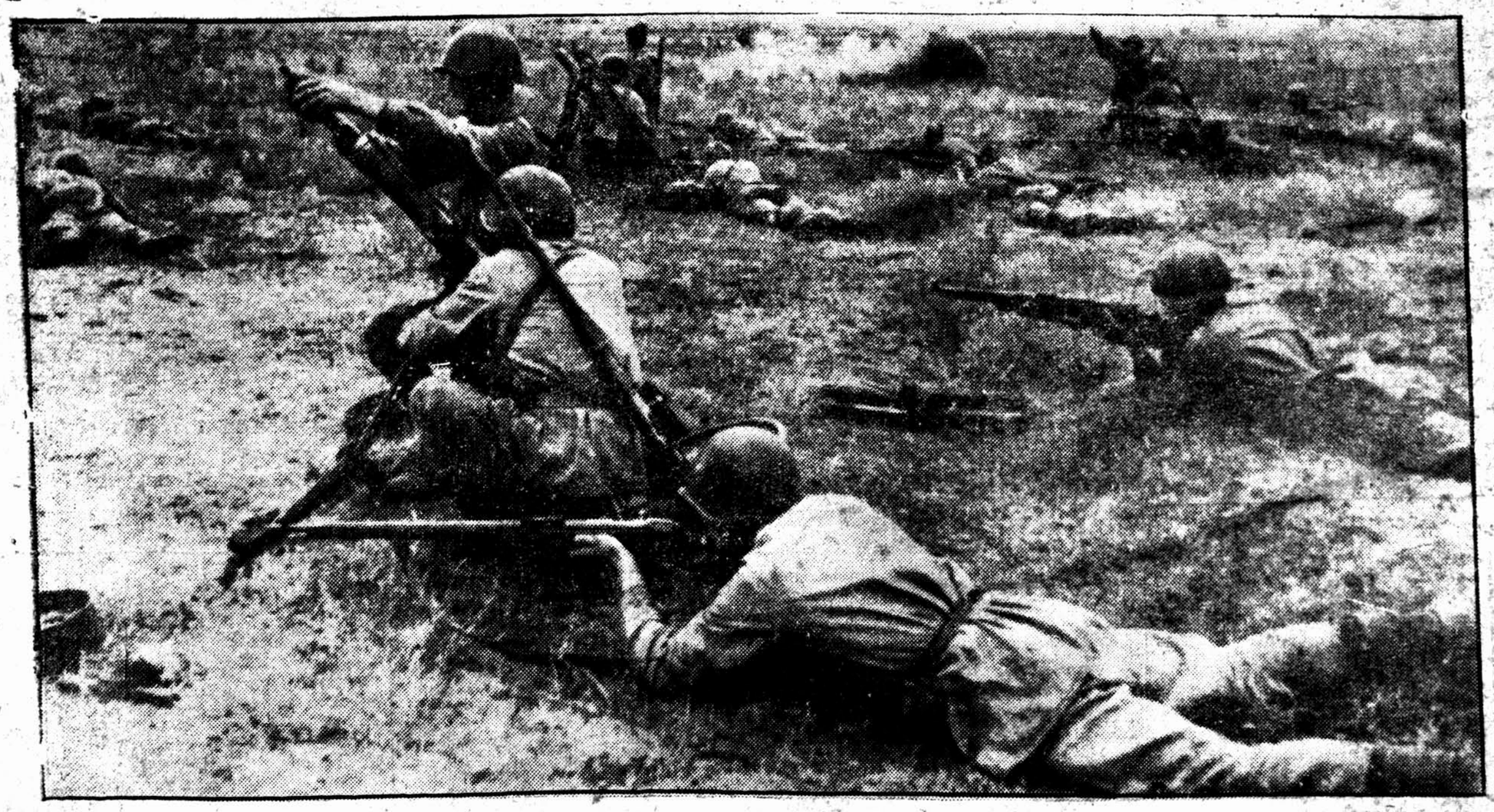
RED ARMY STRIKES BACK

(Left) Automatic rifle-men of the Guards dislodge the enemy from a populated place. (Right) German soldiers surrendering to Red Army men in the Mozdok area.



Men of the Red Army with their trench mortars somewhere near Stalingrad

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